

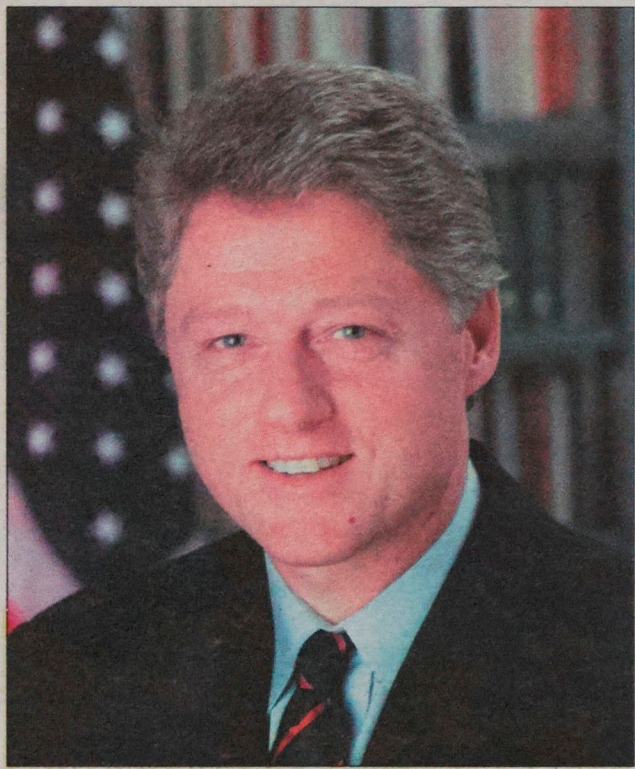
The Middlebury Campus

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Since 1905

BILL CLINTON TO ADDRESS GRADS



Courtesy/Public Domain

By Ben Salkow
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Former President Bill Clinton will deliver Middlebury's 2007 commencement address on May 27, marking the first address by a modern president to the College. The 42nd President of the United States will receive an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree at the commencement and be joined by six other honorary degree recipients — Robert De Cormier, Janet Tiebout Hanson, James Gustave Speth, Marc A. and Dana Lim vanderHeyden and Dr. Huda Y. Zoghbi.

College officials are expected to formally announce Clinton's commitment, and the other honorary degree recipients, later this morning.

"It is a great honor to have President Clinton as the Middlebury College commencement speaker," said President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz. "His dedication to a career in public service and the philanthropic work he has done since leaving public office are an inspiration to college students seeking ways to change and improve both our country and our world."

The idea of bringing Clinton to campus was first proposed by the College's Board of Trustees, who secured the commitment with some assistance from a Middlebury alum who had worked for the former President.

Since leaving the Oval Office, Clinton has worked for a range of major national and international causes through the William J. Clinton Foundation HIV/AIDS initiatives and prominent collaborations with former President George H.W. Bush to raise funds for victims of the Indian Ocean Tsunami in 2004 and Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Clinton has also remained in the media spotlight as the nation's potential first First Man, should his wife, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-NY), enter the 2008 presidential contest. Sen. Hillary Clinton has not committed to attending the commencement with her husband.

Before first running for the presidency, Bill Clinton served as the governor of Arkansas, chairman of the National Governors' Association and had been an attorney general of Arkansas.

SEE FIRST MODERN, PAGE 3

Faculty casts close vote on Rehnquist

By Brian Fung
NEWS EDITOR

A motion reaffirming the College's commitment to diversity was narrowly passed, 52-43, by secret ballot at the Dec. 11 faculty meeting. Arguments for and against the resolution were among the latest volleys to be exchanged in the debate over a controversial professorship dedicated to former Supreme Court Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist.

Leading the campaign for the symbolic "sense of the faculty" resolution was Professor of Russian Kevin Moss.

"The recent naming of an endowed chair for William H. Rehnquist undermines Middlebury College's ability to promote diversity," he said, arguing that the College's actions represent tacit support for the late Chief Justice's conservative court decisions. "Rehnquist had the opportunity to grant civil rights to African Americans and gays and lesbians, and he consistently used that power to deny them these rights again and again."

According to Moss, the motion was inspired in part by a lack of communication between the administration and the College community regarding the decision to announce the Rehnquist chair. Moss's resolution called for the future consultation of faculty on potentially sensitive College actions, especially those concerning race, class, and sexual preference.

"We should have participation within the faculty," he said. "That we're discussing this now is a little absurd. We should have been discussing this earlier."

President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz apologized for the

SEE FACULTY, PAGE 4

Stafford '35 leaves behind legacy of service

By Sonja Pedersen-Green
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Senator Robert T. Stafford '35, died in Montpelier on Dec. 23, 2006. The 93-year-old Vermonter was known as a champion for education and the environment during his four-decade-long career in politics, and will be fondly remembered by friends, family and colleagues.

Despite having graduated over a half-century ago, Stafford maintained a rich relationship with the College throughout his life and was honored with a named professorship for his public service. Stafford, who majored in political science, met his wife Helen at Middlebury during the 1934-35 school years, when she was a first-year and he was a senior. Two of Stafford's children also attended the College, Madelyn Stafford Glase '63 and Susan Stafford Mohr '67.

According to Professor of Political Science and Secretary of the College Emeritus Eric Davis, Stafford said, "The courses he took [at Middlebury]

opened him to a wider world, led him to pursue a law degree and to then get involved in public life after returning from naval service during World War II."

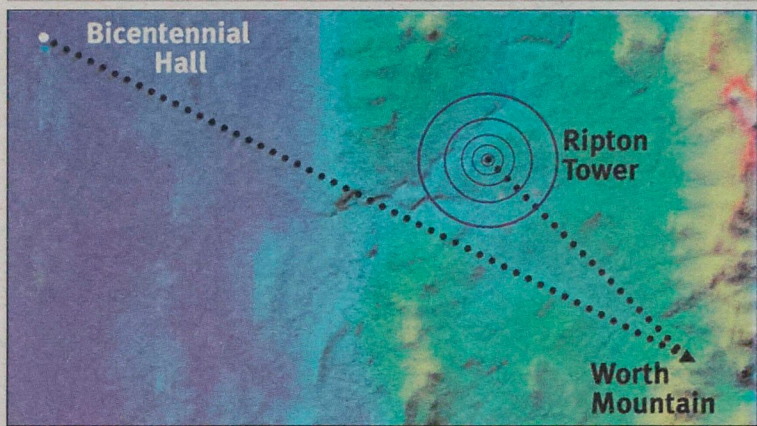
Davis, who attended Stafford's funeral Saturday, said, "Just about every present or former Vermont officeholder, regardless of party or of age, was present at the ceremony, [which] shows the respect and affection which Bob Stafford had throughout the Vermont political community."

Stafford was a staunch supporter of the federal financial aid program, and after he retired, the Senate named the low-interest Stafford Loan after him to honor his dedication to federal financial aid program. Stafford also provided additional federal resources for cultural programs such as the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities. He used his prominence in the Senate to fight against educational cutbacks and defend

SEE SENATOR, PAGE 5



Courtesy



Courtesy

BiHall broadcasts wireless

By Andrea Glaessner
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

With spectacular views and miles of forest right in their backyard, residents of the quaint Ripton community seem to have little to grumble about. But in their peaceful mountain oasis, the 566 residents struggle to stay connected with the rest of the world. Sure, there are televisions and tele-

phones, and the booming metropolis of Middlebury is just a short car ride away, but imagine living in a town where surfing the web is like wading through quicksand.

Three years ago, Ripton residents seeking broadband services turned to large service providers like Verizon. Rick Klein, an interim board member of RBC, remembers

SEE RBC, PAGE 6

With Midd at five, apps on the rise

By Thomas Brant
NEWS EDITOR

The Office of Admissions has received nearly 7,000 regular decision applications for admission to the class of 2011, a 13 percent increase from last year, according to Dean of Admissions Bob Clagett. Middlebury's early decision applications were also up, by seven percent, in contrast to other New England colleges that saw drops in early decision applications.

While the final numbers for regular decision applications are not yet available at many NESCAC schools, Tufts, Wesleyan, Amherst and Connecticut College all reported drops of seven to 10 percent in the number of early decision applications. Yale saw a 13 percent drop, while Dartmouth's numbers remained about the same.

Clagett, who in November predicted a rise in regular decision applications, said that a higher volume

of campus visits this season indicated that numbers would increase.

"As of the end of August, [campus visits] were up 40 percent and I have no reason to believe that we've dropped in the meantime," said Clagett. "I think that had an impact, for sure."

Accompanying the increase in the number of submitted applications was an increase in the caliber of the students who applied. Using its set criteria, the admissions office

ranked the strengths and talents of each applicant on a numerical scale.

"It's a significantly stronger applicant pool this year," Clagett said. "We've got a 50 percent increase in the number of applicants who have the top ratings on our scale."

When asked about possible reasons for the increase in both number and quality of applicants, Clagett said, "There are a lot of reasons. I

SEE APPS, PAGE 4

Applications by the Numbers

Early Decision I

2006
Around 700 applications

2005
645 applications

2004
533 applications

7 percent increase from 2005 to 2006

Regular Decision

2007
Around 7,000 applications

2006
6,204 applications

2005
5,200 applications

13 percent increase from 2006 to 2007

the return of Anais

Anais Mitchell '00 travels back to campus to rock the Grille with her unique folk music, page 18



play around the clock

Actors, directors and playwrights gather in the Zoo for the "24 hour Play Festival," page 16



the most read stories

a look at the *Campus* stories and Middlebury news that hit it off with online readers in 2006, page 14



middbriefs

by Derek Schlickeisen, News Editor

Eight students honored with Fulbright Awards

Eight members of the Class of 2006 have earned Fulbright United States Student Awards, making the College one of the top 10 receivers of the award among undergraduate schools nationwide. The Fulbright Awards will support to new alumni as they pursue graduate study, research and teaching opportunities overseas.

The eight students — Grace Armstrong, Edward Hinson, Thomas Icard, Ashley Kerr, Katherine Kirsch, Mary Elizabeth Nora, Colleen Reynolds and Elizabeth Zane — will fan out across the world, investigating diverse topics ranging from the influence of intellectual property rights on developing economies to the history of Argentinean and Chilean slang.

One of the Fulbright Program's goals is to help recent university graduates build cultural understanding with their peers in other countries.

University Channel to debut at Middlebury

Middlebury will join three other universities known for their International Relations programs in chartering an on-line forum offering free access to footage of significant public policy lectures and panel discussions.

The "University Channel," an on-demand database with footage of lectures from institutions worldwide, will bring the College's Rohatyn Center for International Affairs together with public affairs schools at Princeton University, Columbia University and the University of Texas.

"We are proud to be a founding partner in a venture that invites anyone with an internet connection to engage in the free exchange of ideas," said Allison Stanger, director of the Rohatyn Center for International Affairs and Professor of political science at the College. "In myriad ways, the University Channel can play a critical role in advancing our common quest for solutions to global problems."

Though the venture names only four schools as founding partners, the University Channel will include audio and video footage from addresses at several hundred schools in the U.S. and abroad.

Since the Channel's prototype Web site became available in July of 2005, academic reviews have widely praised its efforts: *Slate* named its podcast one of the year's best, and the academic technology review *Campus Technology* called the project one of the "100 Best Practices of 2005."

CFA to bring eclectic performance to campus

On Jan. 13, the College will host an eclectic performance by the Meridian Arts Ensemble, a group whose repertoire ranges from Renaissance music and reggae-inspired ska to works by Frank Zappa and Middlebury College Professor of Music Su Lian Tan.

The sextet — five brass players and a percussionist — have gained a reputation for breaking with musical tradition, bringing together a varied selection that has earned critical acclaim. Their eight compact disc recordings have been distributed in 30 countries, and reviewers from *The Washington Post* to *Fanfare* laud the group for its high-octane performance of more traditional pieces.

With performances in 49 states as well as destinations in Japan and throughout Europe under their belt, the Ensemble has returned to continue its residency with the College's Department of Music. The performance will take place in the Center for the Arts Concert Hall at 8 p.m.

Three professors granted tenure

Trustees promote faculty members after arduous process

By Kathryn Flagg
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The Board of Trustees granted three professors tenure in December, approving all candidates up for the promotion last semester. Although this year's tenure pool is uncharacteristically small — only two professors will be up for review this spring — the decisions reaffirm the College's commitment to what one of the recently tenured professors dubbed a "scrupulously fair" review process.

The religion department's James Calvin Davis, Anne Kelly Knowles of the geography department and Antonia Losano of the English and American literatures department were promoted from assistant professor to the rank of associate professor without limit of tenure. The trustees accepted the recommendations of President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz and the Educational Affairs Committee at a meeting on Dec. 7.

Last month's promotions reflected the work of a long review process — one often misunderstood by students but viewed by professors and administrators as responsible and fair.

The Ultimate Exam

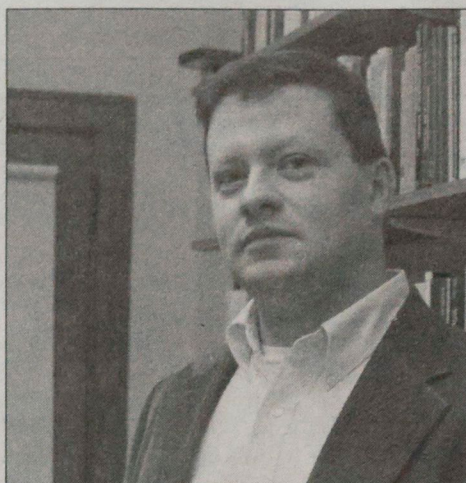
Tenure-track professors generally come under review in the spring of their seventh year at the College, and the decision is orchestrated by the Promotions Committee. Professors under review are evaluated for excellence in teaching, significant scholarly accomplishments and participation in and service to the College community. The review process considers all of a professor's past course evaluation forms, letters from students and alumni, classroom visits and departmental reviews.

"It's a very thorough process," said Acting Dean of the Faculty and F.C. Dirks Professor of International Economics Sunder Ramaswamy, particularly when compared to practices at other colleges and universities.

Losano confirmed this crucial difference in the College's approach to the review. "The tenure process here is very teaching-focused," she wrote in an e-mail. "Many of my friends who teach at other schools went through the process with not a single class visit by a colleague. I had, I think, 27 visits."

But this labor-intensive process ultimately builds the foundation for the weighty decision left to the Promotions Committee and the President of the College.

"By the end of the process, the Promotions Committee is confident that, based on the departmental recommendation and its own observations, it can make a recommendation to the President that this person has actually met the excellence of teaching,"



Lizzy Zevallos, Chris Heinrich, Courtesy

James Calvin Davis, Anne Kelly Knowles, and Antonia Losano (pictured clockwise from top left) were promoted to the rank of associate professor.



Ramaswamy said.

The thoroughness of the College's review process aside, tenure is widely recognized as a "tough, challenging moment in every faculty member's life," Ramaswamy said. The benefits of lifetime employment with an individual university — including much-valued financial and academic security — are coveted by many academics, but a failed tenure review can be devastating for a professor's career.

"A great deal rides on tenure," said Knowles. "It's very sobering." Decisions, she continued, can be "tragic" for professors denied tenure.

Tenure for the 21st Century

The tenure practice is not without its critics. Critics often argue — as President Emeritus John M. McCardell did in a 2004 *New York Times* op-ed — that tenure is a solution to the problems of the 1940s, when academic freedom was at serious risk. He contended in his op-ed that the system as it stands does not reflect the "realities of academic life in the 21st century."

"I think tenure is one of the great shibboleths," said McCardell in an interview. He argued that while the review process at the College is meticulous, tenure remains "one of those icons towards which academia tends to bow" without questioning or challenging the institution.

For Associate Professor of German Bettina Matthias, who was tenured last fall, the institution is also at times problematic. "I have never not said what I wanted to say," she noted, questioning the argument for academic freedom. She worried, too, about the effect that tenure has on the larger body of

faculty members.

"Tenure creates two camps among the faculty," she said. "Them and us. I don't think there should be that divide."

Matthias admitted, however, that although she is not sure that the practical justification for tenure still exists, the mental reassurance is welcome. In addition to providing a certain validation of a professor's work, tenure allows for creative freedom and the time and flexibility to pursue new research.

"For the first time in my life, I'm not waiting for something," Matthias said.

New Kids on the Block

For the newest batch of tenured professors, the review process proved "arduous," in Davis's words, but ultimately worthwhile.

"The most trying thing for everyone is waiting in silence," Knowles said. "The person actually up for tenure has almost no idea at all what is going on."

Knowles, however, viewed the process as beneficial for her classes and her teaching last semester. After teaching at three universities before coming to the College, and after finishing her dissertation 13 years ago, she expressed great excitement when finally up for review.

"That excitement carried over into some of the best teaching I've ever done," she said. She described her students as supportive during classroom observations. "It felt like they were cheering me on."

For all three professors, tenure allows for new directions in their research and validates their commitments to their departments and their students.

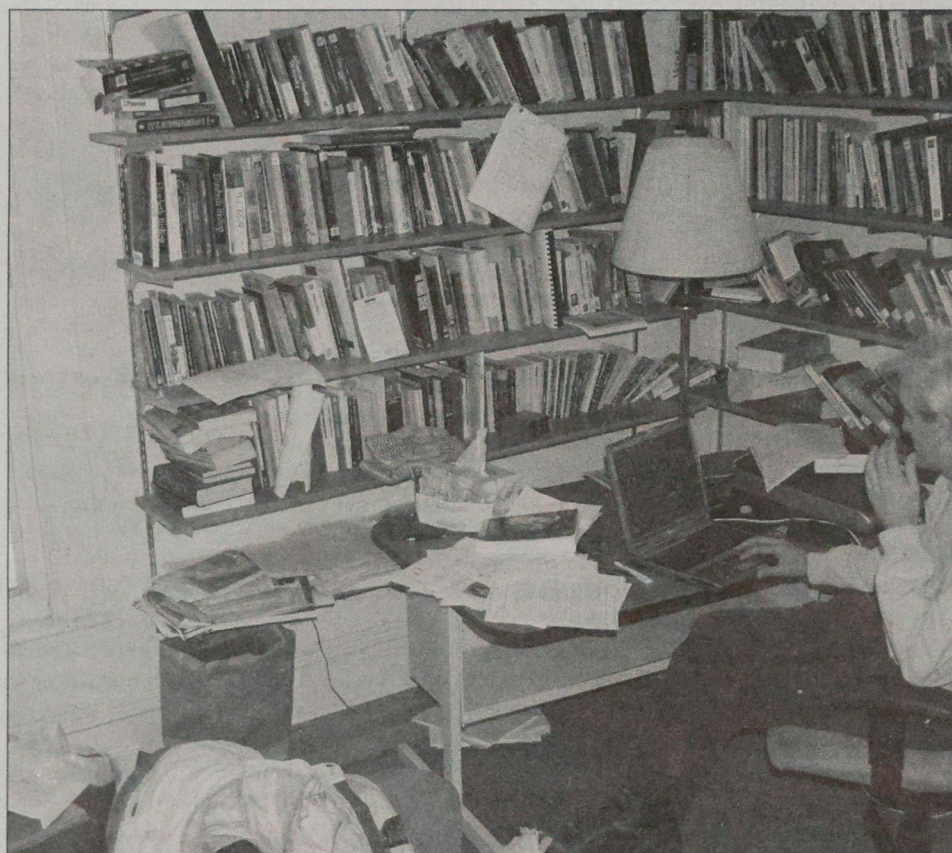
Davis, whose review was originally scheduled for spring 2008, expressed excitement at the "clarity" that tenure can bring to a professor's position in the department — a benefit that he identified as one of the motivating factors for his early review.

"Ours is a pretty young department, so much so that I'm regarded as one of the folks who's been here for a while. I was ready for my official status to reflect that," he wrote in an e-mail.

For Knowles, tenure signals a new security in her relationship with the College community, one that she cherishes after having searched for the right university for some time.

"The longer I've been here, the more I've loved it," she said. "I like getting to know people. I like the scale here. I like the culture, too. I like the high standards."

Those high standards — applied to students and faculty alike — are at the foundation of a tenure review process that will kick into gear again next semester.



Angela Evancie

Faculty members striving for tenure log long hours as they undertake research and work to meet the College's high standards for excellence in teaching and service to the community.

First modern President to visit

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Elected president in 1992, and again in 1996, Clinton was the first Democratic president in six decades to win a second term in office. His administrations' accomplishments included a significant economic expansion, major welfare reform, budget surpluses, lower levels of unemployment, poverty and crime and high home ownership and college enrollment rates. While political and personal scandals clouded his later presidency, Clinton largely regained popularity after leaving office. The William J. Clinton Foundation has reduced the cost of antiretroviral drugs for over 500,000 people and works in 25 countries to provide medical services and treatment to adults and children living with HIV/AIDS. In addition, the Foundation's initiatives focus on

international development, climate change, the childhood obesity epidemic in America and economic empowerment.

Clinton graduated from Georgetown University and in 1968 won a Rhodes scholarship to Oxford University. He received a law degree from Yale University in 1973, and shortly thereafter entered politics in Arkansas.

In addition to Clinton, six other individuals, all with ties to the College or local community, will be awarded honorary degrees.

Robert De Cormier, founder and director of the Vermont Symphony Orchestra Chorus, will receive an honorary Doctor of Arts degree. De Cormier graduated from the Juilliard School of Music and was the former music director of the New York Choral Society. De Cormier has conducted and composed for engagements ranging from Broadway to opera to television.

Janet Tiebout Hanson, founder and chairman of \$2 billion Milestone Capital Management, and a managing director at Lehman Brothers, will receive an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree. Hanson's Milestone Capital Management is the only women-owned institutional money market fund management company in the U.S. Hanson is also the founder of 85 Broads, an internet-based global network of former and current Goldman Sachs women professionals. Hanson's sister, Mary E. Tiebout, is a 1975 Middlebury graduate.

James Gustave Speth, Dean and Sara Shallenberger Brown Professor in the Practice of Environmental Policy at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, will receive an honorary Doctor of Science degree. Speth was the administrator of the United Nations Development Program, the founder and president of World Resources Institute and a co-founder of the Natural Resources Defense Council. He is the father of Catherine McCullough, a member of the Middlebury College class of 1991.

Marc A. vanderHeyden, the president of Saint Michael's College, and his wife, Dana Lim vanderHeyden, will receive an honorary Doctor of Letters degree. St. Michael's 15th president assumed the presidency in 1996 and announced last year that he would step down from the position in June of 2007. Dana vanderHeyden, who has served in various roles as a professor and academic administrator for almost three decades, is currently a member of the board of Vermont Public Radio, Burlington City Arts and the Region I Board of the Vermont Symphony Orchestra.

Dr. Huda Y. Zoghbi, a professor in the Baylor College of Medicine Departments of Pediatrics, Molecular and Human Genetics, and Neurology and Neuroscience, and an investigator at the Howard Hughes Medical Center, will receive an honorary Doctor of Science degree. In 1999, Zoghbi discovered the gene mutation that causes the rare, disabling neurodevelopmental disorder Rett syndrome. She is the mother of Roula Zoghbi, a member of the Middlebury College class of 2007.



Courtesy/Public Domain

Finance Committee looks at SAF

By Zamir Ahmed
NEWS EDITOR

The Finance Committee is preparing a recommendation to the Student Government Association (SGA) Senate to raise next year's Student Activities Fee (SAF), according to Finance Committee chair Amanda Goodwin '07. Following a year in which the Finance Committee was forced to cut the budget of nearly every student organization by 12.5 percent, potential increases of 50 percent or more over a period of time have not been ruled out by students involved in the decision.

Because a final number has not been decided on, Goodwin could not provide a concrete number but indicated that the Committee hopes the new SAF will provide it with enough funds to sufficiently finance student groups.

"I cannot cite a number but what we are doing now is looking at how much we budgeted this year, not including the 12.5 [percent cut] but before the 12.5 cut," said Goodwin. "We would increase that with inflation, perhaps adding some security padding, and then use that as a base chunk. On top of that, we would add money for new initiatives and programs that are being discussed."

"I have already met with most of the major social programming groups on campus to discuss their wishlists for the future," continued Goodwin. "Once we see how their expenditures line up, we will be working to ensure the greatest benefit for the most people by trying to give every major group a chance to see their ideas carried to fruition. It is important to have this information in advance, so that we can accommodate major expenses and set the SAF right, even before we hit budgeting season in the spring."

The SAF, which is collected from every student who enrolls at the College, is the fund through which student group-sponsored

events are supported. A survey of NESAC schools conducted every couple of years found that Middlebury currently spends less money on student activities than most other colleges, according to Director of the Center for Campus Activities and Leadership Doug Adams.

"We looked at the actual cost per student, which puts us at \$240, which puts us in the lower third [of the surveyed colleges]," said Adams.

We decided to start the budgeting process earlier during second semester. ... It will give the Finance Committee enough time to ensure that all questions are resolved fully before the end of the year.

—Alex Stanton '07, SGA president

According to Adams, the Finance Committee is looking at a number of models in which to raise the SAF over the next few years.

"The highest fee charged [by surveyed colleges] is one percent of the Amherst tuition, which is roughly \$428," said Adams. "That's something the Finance Committee has looked at — should it be tied to something that is not random? Should it be tied to something like if the tuition goes up, the fee goes up? Should it be tied to some type of market indicator? Should it go up every two or three years by 10 to 15 dollars, to make it less arbitrary? I think that's something they're looking into this year," Adams said.

In addition to looking into increasing the SAF, the Finance Committee is also exploring amending the process through which funds are allocated.

"We decided to start the budgeting pro-

cess earlier during second semester," said Alex Stanton '07, president of the SGA. "This will give student groups who are unhappy with their allocation enough time to appeal the decision through the SGA. It will also give the Finance Committee enough time to ensure that all questions are resolved fully before the end of the year."

The Finance Committee is awaiting the recommendation of the Comprehensive Fee

Committee, a subset of the Finance Committee, regarding increasing the Comprehensive Fee before deciding on raising the SAF. The Comprehensive Fee Committee is currently collecting information about financial needs from a number of departments and facility offices on campus before making its recommendation to the Board of Trustees regarding tuition.

"We work with the college model to plug in percentage increases," said Goodwin. "We don't really plan for an increase. In a perfect world, we wouldn't increase it but we know we need to increase it at least by inflation, maybe a little more."

"It's always a constant struggle because you don't want to be at the head of the pack," added Goodwin of tuition prices. "You don't want to be the most expensive, but you don't want to be the least expensive college either. You want to be near the top but not at the top."



overseas briefing

Perrier and Pâté: a day in the City of Lights

by Franny Bohar

My first official day as a Parisian student is coming to a close. At the risk of being cliché, I must admit that as I write to you all I am drinking a glass of white wine and eating pâté on a fresh baguette. I do not expect every day to be so decadent, but I felt I deserved luxury after living through *mon premier jour à Paris*.

The day started at about 5 a.m. because I am not quite adjusted to the time change, which is 9 hours forward since I flew from my home in California. I took a shower — not as simple as it sounds. The French have a bad rap in terms of bathing, and after turning on my shower for the first time I forgave them completely. My shower is, well, a showerhead in the wall of my bathroom. I was wrong to think the water would contain itself — I could brush my teeth at the sink while in the shower, I could sit on *ma toilette* while in the shower, I could walk about four feet in any direction and still be in my shower. It was quite an ordeal, and I'm still not sure if I have an extravagantly large steam room or a sopping wet bathroom. I guess the point, however, is that when I left it, I was clean.

I met up with a few girls from Middlebury who also live in *ma maison* and we made our way through the metro to the Middlebury School at the Centre Madeleine in the heart of Paris. Over tea and croissants, we learned about the program and were then introduced to Parisian students who will serve as our guides this week. After signing the formidable language pledge, I set off with Jean-Marie. She led me and three others through the streets at the pace of a true local, all the while smoking an elegantly thin cigarette and speaking fluid and fast French. When Jean-Marie came to a halt, it was to bring us to lunch on the top floor of *Printemps*, a ritzy department store akin to Neiman Marcus. We rode the escalator up from the linens department and were immediately stunned — the restaurant's walls were completely glass, and turning around we could see *le Tour Eiffel*, *les Champs Élysées* and all of Paris spread out beneath thousands of rooftops.

Sipping Perrier, we did our best to carry on conversation. Although I did spend a lot of time smiling and nodding, I do know that we discussed the sights we would like to see (*le Centre Pompidou*, *l'Orangerie*, *le Louvre*), the new James Bond movie and our musical tastes. Apparently, MC Solaar is not cool anymore — who knew.

After we'd finished, I walked to the grocery store because never again am I eating in the cafeteria (call me uncultured but I just can't eat shrimp that still have eyes and whiskers). I stocked up on cheese and pasta and Nutella and then aimed myself homeward after an exhausting day of navigating a huge city in a foreign language. I sat on the metro and watched the lights flicker in the rain as we sped through Paris, the Eiffel Tower flashing through the window for an instant. I feel as far away from Vermont as I possibly could be, which is terrifying but also thrilling. Mastering French is among my biggest fears, so if I can survive six months here I'll be pretty much ready to take on anything. Tomorrow? Buy a cell phone, open a bank account and attack the day.

college shorts

by Tom Brant, News Editor

Protest urges Columbia to discipline students

Supporters of immigration control protested Thursday at Columbia University in an effort to get the school to sanction students who interrupted an October speech by Jim Gilchrist, the founder of the anti-illegal immigration Minuteman Project.

Students from a campus club, the Chicano Caucus, entered the stage with banners denouncing the Minuteman Project during the Oct. 4 speech.

Joanna Marzullo, president of New Yorkers for Immigration Control and Enforcement, called for Columbia to expel the students in an interview with *The Associated Press*. She claimed that the students were violent towards Gilchrist.

In a video of the conflict, students were shown shouting and tussling with Minuteman supporters, but no violence was apparent.

The Chicano Caucus told the AP that there was no interference with the right to free speech, and rejected the claim that any of their members attacked Gilchrist.

—CNN.com

College president gets probation for embezzling

Dolores Cross, former president of Morris Brown College, was sentenced to five years of probation and a year of home confinement in a U.S. District Court on Wednesday, *The Associated Press* reported. She was charged with embezzling millions in federal loans and grants meant for student tuition.

Cross, 70, who was president of the African-American college in Atlanta from 1998-2002, pleaded guilty in May to embezzling \$3.4 million in Pell grants and student loans, according to the AP. The school was faced with a \$3.3 million debt during her time in office. Cross and financial aid director Parvesh Singh used the \$3.4 million to pay off the debt and cover operating costs.

According to the AP, Singh and Cross applied for the loans using names of fictitious students, or students who had already graduated. These students did not know about the loans or the fact that they were expected to repay them, the AP said.

"I am very sorry for the conduct that has caused me to plead guilty," Cross told the AP. "I allowed this situation to continue even though, as president, I should have addressed it immediately."

—CNN.com

UPenn professor faces charges in wife's death

A University of Pennsylvania economics professor was charged Monday with beating his wife to death after she made her plans to divorce him public, *The Associated Press* reported.

Rafael Robb, 56, had been a suspect in the murder since his wife Ellen, 49, was found beaten to death at their home in Upper Merion Township Dec. 22, according to the AP.

Montgomery County District Attorney Bruce Castor said several pieces of evidence, such as a broken window, led authorities to believe the scene was staged to look like a burglary. For instance, broken glass from the door window had not been crushed underfoot or tracked throughout the house, Castor told the AP.

Robb was charged with first- and third-degree murder, possession of an instrument of crime, tampering with evidence and lying to authorities.

—FOXNews.com

Faculty supports diversity motion

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

miscommunication, tracing the root of the problem to a visit earlier in the academic year by current Chief Justice John G. Roberts.

"[Granting] the request by the donors to have Roberts' lecture be the place where we announced this was a mistake on my part," said Liebowitz in an interview. "I didn't think through the implications of folks coming to hear the Chief Justice, and instead hearing about the chair given in honor of William Rehnquist."

In a letter to the College that was read aloud during the meeting, Jim Ralph, professor of History and the recipient of the Rehnquist professorship, claimed that there was nothing inherently conservative about the decision to establish the chair in Rehnquist's name.

"Holding the professorship does not make one an intellectual follower of the honoree," said Ralph.

A number of other prominent professors spoke on Rehnquist's behalf, defending his court record as a set of legal decisions that, despite their sometimes far-reaching effect on American politics, were in themselves simply an interpretation of the United States Constitution and nothing more.

Charles A. Dana Professor of Political Science Murray Dry cautioned the community against equating "judicial action with political action." Dry said that Rehnquist's court opinions are hardly an accurate indication of the late Chief Justice's personal politics.

By contrast, Moss argued that Rehnquist's own views on contentious issues had a major influence on his decisions, whether the faculty acknowledged them or not.

"The makeup of the Court determines what kind of decisions are made," he said. "If it were a completely transparent and apolitical body, then it wouldn't matter who was on the Court. The reason it matters, and the reason that there are political battles over confirmation of justices, is that it is in fact political."

G. Nye and A. Walker Boardman Professor of Mental and Moral Science Paul Nelson

drew an analogy from his own experiences. Nelson argued that the namesake of a professorship should have little bearing on the nature of the recipient's work.

"This is not the professorship of William H. Rehnquist Studies," he said. "That would be an odd subject." Nelson claimed to have felt no pressure to support the Boardmans' own politics. "I've enjoyed perfect academic freedom," he said, though he later admitted being uncertain about what the Boardmans' political views actually were.

Those who spoke in favor of Moss' motion did so in sweeping terms, appealing to a spirit of progressive equality.

Referring to the College's mission statement, Professor of History Bill Hart said, "Middlebury stands for social change. While the world and Middlebury changed, Rehnquist did not. By honoring such a political, partisan and divisive person, the College has performed a political act."

Dry agreed that the dispute over the

professorship presented a poor image of the College, though for different reasons. "What does [this] say to students that come and study at Middlebury College?" he asked. "That this is a politically correct institution and you'd better have solidly liberal views, or you're going to come up against faculty who are disapproving of you."

Dry stressed that the College's pursuit of

Holding the professorship does not make one an intellectual follower of the honoree.

— Jim Ralph

diversity should include not only what he called "the traditional categories," but also a variety of opinions, perspectives and politics.

The lack of political diversity among those who opposed last month's motion was of particular interest to Moss. "[They] were all male, were all full professors, were several endowed chairs, were all white," he said, suggesting that many faculty members' opinions on the issue were largely informed by their own racial and sexual identity. Despite the apparent polarization of the faculty, Moss expressed hope that the discussion would continue.

Dry concurred. "I've been here a long time," he said. "I can't remember a vote like this. But it's not as if I'm going to stop talking to people who voted the other way."

In addition to calling for improved communications between the administration and faculty, Hart emphasized the need for dialogue on an individual level. "We faculty must own this decision," he said. "If we cannot have a free exchange of ideas here, we are in the wrong profession."

Apps for 2011 show higher caliber

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

don't know if there's a single most important factor, but the fact that [Middlebury] has become more selective has contributed, and being in the top five in the *U.S. News* ranking probably helps too."

Middlebury was ranked the fifth best liberal arts college in *U.S. News and World Report's* annual survey released last fall.

Besides rankings, Clagett cited Middlebury's characteristics as a possible draw for

applicants.

"We don't have a label attached to us," he said. "We have a balance that prevents people from being locked into a certain stereotype." Clagett suggested that this balance sets Middlebury apart from otherwise similar liberal arts colleges.

"We are a liberal arts college with a pragmatic twist," he said. "There's an emphasis on language and international study, and those are topics that really resonate with people, especially with everything that's going on in the

world right now."

In 2006, Middlebury received 6,204 regular decision applications, up 1,004 from its 2005 figure. Applications for early decision rose earlier this year as well, with the Admissions Office receiving around 700 applicants, up from 645 last year.

The admissions staff, which started sorting through applications last week, will continue to evaluate them for the next two months. After committee meetings in March, the staff will mail out decisions to applicants in early April.

public safety log

December 4 to January 7

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
12/4/2006	unknown	Theft	Check	McCullough	Referred to MPD
12/4/2006	unknown	Theft	Check	McCullough	Referred to MPD
12/4/2006	unknown	Theft	Check	McCullough	Referred to MPD
12/7/2006	Afternoon	Theft	Medication	Bicentennial Hall	Referred to MPD
12/7/2006	unknown	Theft	Medication	Bicentennial Hall	Open
12/7/2006	2:40 p.m.	Theft	Key / ID Card / Money	Ross	Referred to MPD
12/9/2006	3:05 a.m.	Vandalism	Wall light	On Campus	Referred to Commons Dean
12/9/2006	1:00 a.m.	Theft	Jacket	Le Chateau	Referred to Commons Dean
12/13/2006	unknown	Theft	Medications	Bicentennial Hall	Open
12/14/2006	3:00 p.m.	Vandalism (Vehicle)	Driver window	Shannon Street	Referred to MPD
12/14/2006	12:00 p.m.	Theft	Money of check	McCullough	Referred to MPD
12/15/2006	unknown	Vandalism (Vehicle)	Window	Old Chapel Road	Referred to MPD
12/16/2006	12:55 a.m.	Vandalism	Bathroom walls / Grafitti	McCullough	No Suspects
12/17/2006	1:31 a.m.	Drug Violation	Marijuana	Hadley	Referred to Commons Dean
12/19/2006	11:40 a.m.	Theft	Money	Gifford	Referred to Commons Dean
1/5/2007	3:00 p.m.	Theft	Cash from Wallet	Fitness Center	Open
1/5/2007	11:30 p.m.	Vandalism (Vehicle)	Side mirror broken off	C Lot	Referred to MPD
1/5/2007	10:49 a.m.	Vandalism (Vehicle)	Side mirror broken off	C Lot	Referred to MPD
1/6/2007	12:08 a.m.	Vandalism	15 Minute Parking Sign	Carr Hall	Referred to MPD
1/6/2007	8:10 a.m.	Theft	Shoulder Bag	Proctor	Referred to MPD
1/7/2007	2:00 p.m.	Theft (From Vehicle)	iPod car player	D Lot	Referred to MPD
1/7/2007	1:30 a.m.	Vandalism (Structure)	Glass Door	D Lot	Referred to MPD
1/7/2007	9:33 a.m.	Theft (From Vehicle)	iPod	D Lot	Referred to MPD
1/7/2007	10:03 a.m.	Theft (From Vehicle)	iPod	D Lot	Referred to MPD
1/7/2007	10:03 a.m.	Theft (From Vehicle)	iPod	C Lot	Referred to MPD
1/7/2007	12:01 p.m.	Theft (From Vehicle)	iPod	D Lot	Referred to MPD

The Department of Public Safety reported giving 22 alcohol citations between Dec. 4 and Jan. 7.

Senator reknowned as environmentalist

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

strong education policies.

Stafford's impact on his second specialization, the environment, was no less significant. According to Stafford Professor of Public Policy, Political Science and Environmental Studies Christopher Klyza, "Senator Stafford played a major role in guiding the legislative process to its conclusion for the Superfund law in 1980." Although President Ronald Reagan was elected while the House and Senate were attempting to reconcile differences in their bills, and was "skeptical of further regulation such as the Superfund law," according to Klyza, "Stafford helped forge the compromise that led to the law."

Stafford helped strengthen the Superfund law by adding such important amendments as the Toxic Release Inventory program and the Safe Drinking Water Act, both in 1986. Stafford was also involved in strengthening the Clean Air Act, including action against acid rain and stringent federal action to curtail water pollution. Stafford was chair of the Senate Committee on the Environment and Public Works, and in this position, he helped to defend the rollback of environmental policies

that many anti-regulation conservatives wished to get rid of during the Reagan Administration. Stafford's strong stance on the environment was just as strong at the Vermont level. He joined Senators Patrick Leahy and then Representative Jim Jeffords in sponsoring the Vermont Wilderness Act, which protected over 40,000 acres of the Green Mountain National Forest as wilderness, including the Breadloaf Wilderness adjacent to the Breadloaf campus.

Throughout his career, Stafford held positions at every level of government.

"Stafford steadily moved up the political ladder," said Davis of Stafford's his four decades in politics. "Moving slowly up the ladder of office is out of fashion today. But careers like Stafford's produced members of Congress who could work together in productive ways, across party lines, and who were also very knowledgeable in the policy areas in which they specialized."

In his entire time in politics, Stafford never lost an election, holding positions "ranging from Rutland County State's Attorney to Attorney General, Lieutenant Governor, Governor, U.S. House member and U.S. Senator member," according to Davis.

RUNNING WITH A PASSION



Chris Heinrich

Kicking off the schedule of Fireside Chats at The Scott Center, Track and Field Head Coach Martin Beatty shares how he became passionate about coaching the sport with students and faculty on Jan. 8.

Yes. It is Wednesday.

We know. It's the end of an era. No longer will you sit down to your Thursday breakfast with a fresh-off-the-press copy of your favorite newspaper. But in our dedication to keeping our dear readers informed, we're bringing you your news a day in advance. What do you think of that, Middlebury?

—Your friends at *The Campus*

Yes. It does look different.

Can't quite put your finger on it, can you? But we have our fingers on the pulse of the Middlebury campus, and we know when it's time for a facelift.

—Your friends at *The Campus*

Too much free time this January?

Forget the slopes. Hit the keyboard.
Contribute to *The* (new and improved) *Campus*.

e-mail campus@middlebury.edu

RBC pioneers high-speed Internet for rural towns

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

contacting Verizon requesting broadband service, only to hear two months later that the company was "not able to provide service to Ripton yet." Eventually, Klein discovered that Verizon was uninterested in investing time and expense to providing broadband to such a small customer base in Ripton.

Instead of sitting around complaining about Verizon, Ripton residents made the classic Vermont move: they took matters into their own hands and formed a co-op: the Ripton Broadband Co-op (RBC). A co-op has the benefit of making group decisions about how to keep the services serving the community equitably and efficiently. Klein said, "We set the prices so we're not subject to the winds of the large service providers [like Verizon]."

According to Associate Professor of Political Science Matt Dickinson, who is a resident of Ripton, "The co-op only charges what's necessary to keep [the broadband services] up and running."

But the best thing for Dickinson is saying goodbye to those days of thumb twiddling in front of the computer screen waiting for an hour-long download to wrap up. According to Dickinson, "I can't tell you how wonderful it is to download things now. I used to joke about Ripton with my students, but it's like we're in the 21st century now."

He may have to find some new jokes about living in an isolated, rural Vermont town, but that is a small price to pay for Dickinson and his family to be able to use their individual computers simultaneously and navigate the web without waiting around. In fact, Dickinson is aware of families who either moved out of Ripton or decided against moving there simply because of the lack of broadband Internet availability.

Not only is broadband convenient, it may change a few lives. According to Paonia N'Shailha, Chief Technology Officer of North Branch Networks (NBN), 22 percent of Ripton residents are unemployed during the winter months. N'Shailha hopes that the new broadband technology will empower people in terms of employment. Having broadband at home means some residents can

work from home. In addition, Ripton's local schools now have RBC broadband Internet and plans are in the works for an open computer lab during certain evenings for community members to take advantage of fast Internet if they do not personally own a computer.

N'Shailha would love to make the Internet accessible to everyone who wants it. "Unfortunately," N'Shailha said, "I have to live in the real world and this stuff is extremely expensive to put together without enormous financial support."

In regards to financial support, the state government has been supportive of RBC. According to Klein, "It's been helpful to have an encouraging climate. The state has definitely been behind us on this project."

Dickinson agrees that other institutions have been extremely instrumental in implementing RBC. According to Dickinson, "We would not have broadband service here without the cooperation of Middlebury College, which allowed the Ripton Cooperative to place a transmitting tower on their buildings. Second, a huge contributing factor was applying for and getting a grant from the Vermont broadband council, roughly \$25,000 if I remember correctly, to purchase equipment, in addition to two loans."

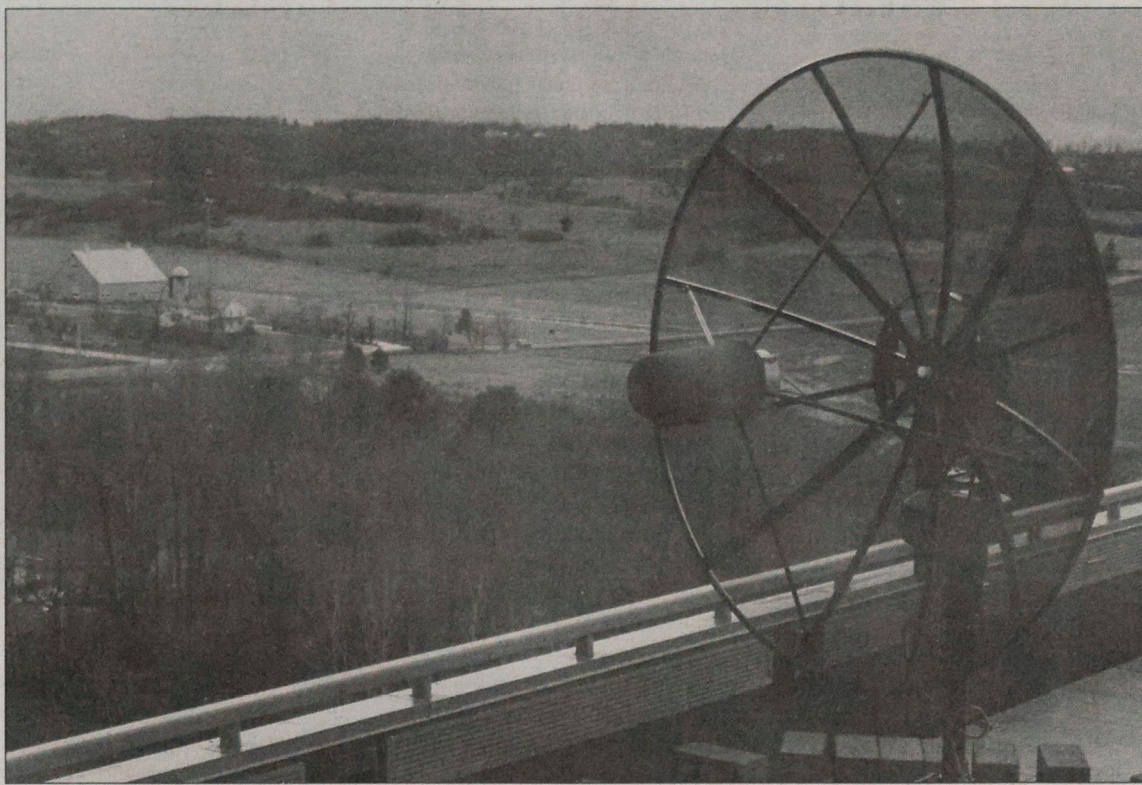
The victory of getting broadband in Ripton is even sweeter because of complicated logistics and

I can't tell you how wonderful it is to download now. I used to joke about Ripton with my students, but it's like we're in the 21st century now.

—Matt Dickinson

manual labor involved in its implementation. The idea was conceived in 2003 and it has taken three years to get the system up and running. N'Shailha, a computer buff who describes herself as someone who "doesn't deal with any unit of time other than a second," designed the network from the ground up.

N'Shailha's plan starts with a



Ilhan Kim

Standing on top of Bi-hall one of the antennas responsible for wiring broadband to Ripton can be found.

fiber-optic cable fed to downtown Middlebury that is then converted to a wireless signal. The signal is broadcast to an antenna on the top of Bicentennial Hall before being redirected to an antenna attached to a wind tower in Cornwall. After reaching the Cornwall wind tower, the signal is redirected again to another wind tower antenna in Ripton and finally is beamed out to Ripton customers.

The complicated plan just scratches the surfaces of the tremendous effort put into carrying out the entire project. According to Dickinson, "one of the drawbacks of a co-op is that everyone has to pull their own weight, including you." The RBC planners linked up with a Ripton resident who wanted a wind tower to power his home. NBN was responsible for putting up the tower, provided they could attach an antenna for wireless service to the tower.

But it was up to the local Riptonites to "get out there on some blustery day to put the tower up," said Dickinson.

The wind tower was not only difficult and expensive to construct, but its creation was met with some opposition from town residents who feared that their mountain vista would be obstructed by a massive

wind tower in plain sight. Eventually, after a trial balloon was placed on the site of the future wind tower, residents came to a consensus and agreed to build the wind tower.

The problem of where to place antennas is a problem with which NBN will continue to deal as it takes the Ripton model and brings it to other communities interested in offering broadband in their own small towns. According to N'Shailha, "We really don't want this to look like New Jersey with a cell phone tower every half mile. So we're trying to find ways to do this creatively and sustainably."

One of N'Shailha's current projects is figuring out how to attach antennas to trees without causing damage to the trees. N'Shailha is also experimenting with attaching antennas to existing structures such as grain silos and houses in good locations that can sustain a substantial amount of bandwidth, which can then be redistributed to neighbors.

In the future, RBC will continue to work on extending coverage to the entire community. NBN is looking to use Ripton as a model for other communities, inspiring them to form their own co-op, or to invest in a commercial package provided by NBN. Governor Jim Douglas also encourages the implementation of broadband access for the entire

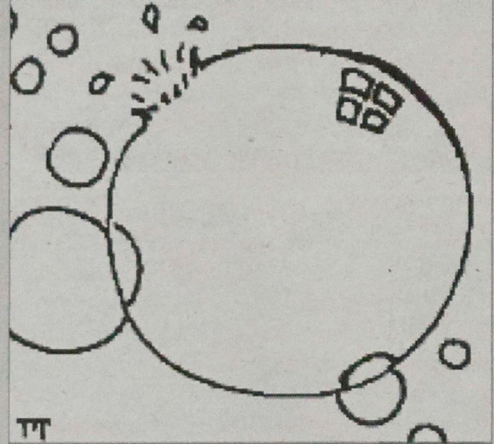
state.

In his inaugural speech, Douglas said, "I propose that by 2010, Vermont be the nation's first true 'e-state' – the first state to provide universal cellular and broadband coverage everywhere and anywhere within its borders. When you turn on your laptop, you're connected. When you hit the send button on your cell phone, the call goes through. There would be no more endless downloads, no more hopeless hellos, and no more 'can you hear me now?'"

With Ripton paving the way, the new e-Vermont is on the horizon. Now that residents have the option to replace their slow dial-up with broadband for as low as \$27.99 per month, Riptonites can surf happy.

Dickinson has been surfing broadband in his home for a month now and finds the service efficient and reliable. In the future, Klein said residents hope to see RBC expand to provide voice over internet protocol. According to Klein, "I'd like to use RBC for all my communication needs and bypass Verizon entirely." Having jumped the huge hurdle of broadband implementation in a town of less than 200 households, Ripton residents have shown the power of cooperation and the future of communication technology in rural towns is looking bright.

BEYOND THE



BUBBLE

BY CLAIRE NIELSON AND LISIE MEHLMAN

Nothing says J-Term quite like seven trailer girls sprawled out on the broken futon of their modular home surrounded by sixteen mouse traps (there was a rather entertaining first encounter with Peary Little, Mouse We Murdered Number One) watching nine straight hours of the latest "America's Next Top Model" marathon (Thanks, VH1. Like we really needed further incentive to not do anything all day long). As the holiday decorations will continue to adorn the walls of our fine home until commencement, Claire spent the day finishing off residual Hannukah gelt (she's multicultural, and darn good at dreidel). When we finally decided to cut ourselves off, and by that we clearly mean that the season had ended (for those interested, what Tyra taught us is that the Arian look is in. We're thinking of going blonde.), we decided to embrace J-Term in all its glory.

Unfortunately we were unable to go snow shoeing or cross country skiing as we had "hoped" to, and while we attribute our lack of activity to inclement weather, let's be honest, Claire's milking her "pneumonia" from three months ago for all it's worth. And Lisie is fine with that, as the last time she engaged in an outdoor activity with Claire she wound up collapsed in a "yard sale" position on the top of the Snow Bowl.

Instead, we decided to take advantage of the uncharacteristically warm weather and spend the remainder of the day indoors baking. To our credit, we did think about going to Dunmore. Lisie even performed a "Let's Go To Dunmore" dance. Claire noted that it was not to be repeated, ever, sort of like Lisie's "What Am I Gonna Wear?" dance.

In purchasing supplies for what Lisie insists on referring to as

the "Big Bake" (Thank God there's no dance), we got into a wee bit of trouble. Apparently the toy car shopping carts at Hannafords are actually only intended for use by children under the age of five. Store Manager Judy berated us – perhaps parking outside the liquor section gave us away as being too old for such antics.

Having "baked" with Lisie before, Claire recognized the important role alcohol would play in her surviving this domestic pursuit. It is a well known fact that Lisie can, and usually does, mess up even the simplest of basic cooking tasks. Take Easy Mac, for example. While most wouldn't even consider boiling noodles cooking, Lisie's attempts necessitate close monitoring. Therefore, even though Claire is morally opposed to (and espouses her moral views frequently) baking from a box, she knew baking from scratch was out of the question. After much deliberation (Betty v. Pillsbury), we went with the classic – funfetti. And matching fetti frosting.

Aside from trying out preferred stirring methods, the baking itself was predictably uneventful. We mean, how much can really go wrong when the instructions only call for three steps? Claire, like an obliging mother, let eager little Lisie have her turn stirring, but kept the oven off limits. It was for her own good.

Despite Claire's doubts about fake-caking (a staple phrase in the Nielson household), the delicacy was actually quite delicious. Although, strangely, Claire and Lisie didn't get to eat too much of their Big Bake product. While it would be nice to blame Peary Little's furry friends, in truth, we suspect it was the roomies. It's understandable though, the Hanukkah gelt was tapped. Thanks, Claire.

Dishing up the last supper at 'Good Food'

Local restaurant looks to lunch and breakfast to boost sales

By Kelly Janis

LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

When the doors of the funky Eat Good Food restaurant first swung open in February of 2006, Middlebury food aficionados raved about the Main Street grill, bar and deli's knack for churning out quality cuisine. The eatery, an off-shoot of Eco Food, an organic establishment which opened five and a half years ago in Vergennes, was intended to resemble its sister restaurant, but with an added twist. "[Eco Food] was more of a daytime place and this was going to be more of a nighttime place," owner Tara Vaughan-Hughes explained. Eat Good Food's customers, however, had a different idea.

"Everyone kept saying 'can't it be more like Eco Food in Vergennes? Can't we have breakfast? Can't you do this?'" Vaughan-Hughes recalled. As such requests mounted, so too did the personal toll rendered on Eat Good Food's owner as she juggled two restaurants and a budding family. Eventually, Vaughan-Hughes relented. "After almost a year, I realized, why fight it? So we changed."

Eat Good Food closed after

Christmas for renovations and reopened on January 3, boasting a traditional breakfast menu consisting of everything from eggs and toast to Greek yogurt with honey and almonds, as well as a lunch selection of "panini, pitas and more." In addition, the restaurant offers baked goods, retail beer and wine, prepared meals to go (shrimp lasagna, salmon fishcakes, black bean salad and potato salad among the customers' favorites), and a diverse array of imported goods. "You'll be able to come in, grab some cheese, a baguette, a bottle of wine, maybe some dinner options and go home all set," Vaughan-Hughes said.

Though the eatery strives to appeal to a wide audience, the perception of its menu items as unusual often makes this an uphill battle. "We found this in Vergennes when we first opened," Vaughan-Hughes said. "People would come in, look at the menu and get this kind of blank stare. And eventually as they got to know the menu, they realized it's all just really good food. It's not weird or whatever."

Thus far, this "really good food"

has evoked an overwhelmingly warm customer response. "Everyone loves it," Vaughan-Hughes enthused. "This lady just said to me 'I've been wishing this was like the Eco Food in Vergennes.' And I told her, 'well, your wish has come true!'"

Even those who were not originally sold on the transformation have come around. "I was a little skeptical at first just because I loved this restaurant so much," manager Melissa D'Amico admitted. "But especially as I've seen in the past few days I think it was the right choice. I think that people are really excited and really happy to have a comfy, cozy place to come and have coffee and have just a really good sandwich, because it's a niche this town needs."

"It's great having a place like this," said customer Janet Greenman. "I like the idea that you can come here and sit and relax and have a good sandwich."

According to D'Amico, it is the restaurant's priorities which distinguish it from other establishments in town. "I think that a lot of people just kind of are thinking about

the bottom line and here we're really worried about the best quality product, whether that means it comes from the farm down the road or we get it from Italy. Every single sandwich that comes out is made-to-order and has the best quality meats and cheeses in it," D'Amico explained. "We have this focus on actually really giving people a service, and have them not eat just a ham sandwich, but eat something that really is amazing, and I think that most definitely sets us apart."

Vaughan-Hughes agreed. "It doesn't make sense to just to go to McDonald's where they literally get beef in that says 'Grade D but still edible,'" she said. "I mean, why would you do that when you could do something else, when you have the choice and it's almost the same price?"

Eat Good Food's efforts do not go unacknowledged. "I have never worked in a place where people stop me on the street to tell me that they had the most amazing meal they've ever had here, and I get that in this town," D'Amico said.

Tara Vaughan-Hughes hopes the eatery's offerings evoke genuine enjoyment in its customers. "I think that food has become a really weird issue for people," she said. "People eat for fuel. They eat for comfort. They eat for lots of different reasons. But it seems like everyone's forgotten how to just eat for pure pleasure, to get something and enjoy every single aspect of it — the look, the smell, the taste, the texture — and then be thoroughly satisfied so when you're done you don't need anymore, you don't want anymore, you're just happy as can be."

Ultimately, to Vaughan-Hughes, it is all about pleasure. "I just have a passion for food and I want to share that with people. I want people to enjoy it," she said. "There are three times a day that you get to eat — well, sometimes more — and why not make it the most enjoyable experience you can have?"

D'Amico seconded this sentiment, and suggested that it is spreading continuously. "Our passion for this restaurant is sort of contagious."

THE LOCAL FLAVOR

By Rachel S. Schiffer

STAFF WRITER

When I stepped into the refurbished one-room schoolhouse on the corner of Route 7 south and Foote Street, the smell of a hot grill pan housed in a glorified wine cellar didn't seem to match up. However, at the Grapevine Grille, where grilling and wining take center stage, it was an appropriate pairing of the olfactory and visual senses.

When I got to the deli counter, I felt like an explorer who had just come upon a hidden treasure. The open kitchen, which is tucked into the back corner of the schoolhouse, is bright and full of energy. On the back wall three large blackboards display a colorful selection of over 20 sandwich and salad options with names like "Almond Leaving on a Jet Plane" (sliced almond encrusted brie with maple Dijon mustard, apples, onion and lettuce, panini-ed on multi-grain bread), "Peter, Paul, Rose and Mary" (roasted garlic and rosemary pesto chicken, goat cheese, onion and tomato on multi-grain), and the "Hugh Heffer" (slow roasted beef, blue cheese aioli, red onions, tomatoes, lettuce and hot peppers, panini-ed on ciabatta).

In addition, the restaurant boasts daily specials and dinner combos available for takeout. Chef and owner Nancy names her sandwiches in honor of the 70s and varies her menu items seasonally to include local ingredients.

A taste of the tomato bisque piqued my taste buds with its peppery zip. Unlike more traditional bisques, this one was laced with a mixture of coarse and finely crushed tomatoes, which let the fruit as opposed to the cream really shine through.

The "Avocada Davida" sandwich featured moist, grilled chicken prepared to order on a ciabatta roll. Its creamy avocados, sprouts and tomatoes with a faint lime-cilantro aioli filled my mouth with fresh, mellow flavors from the garden. When I bit into the red onion, it added the sweet punch and contrast the sandwich needed.

In search of a vegetarian option, I decided to try the "Goat veggie" — a panini on multi-grain with goat cheese, spinach and roasted red peppers. The toasty, grilled bread was crunchy, soft and sweet. The spinach was crisp and the roasted red peppers were a charred and smoky pleasure. A small smear of sun-dried tomato pesto accompanied the goat cheese, which was deliciously tangy and creamy.

In addition to running the deli, Nancy and her business partner stock their wine room with over 200 labels. She is happy to help guide you toward the wines that you are most likely to enjoy with or without your meal.

Though I passed on the wine this time around, I am sure I will be back before Feb graduation, dinner menus in hand, for some quality recommendations or a few celebratory bottles.

Grapevine Grille is open Monday-Saturday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. They are located on the corner of Route 7 South and Foote Street, and can be reached at 802/382-TOGO.



Chris Heinrich

Boasting a fresh new menu and flavor, Eat Good Food opens its doors to Middlebury breakfast and lunch diners.

Town set to decide on new Teen Center

By Tamara Hilmes

LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

On Tuesday Dec. 19, the Middlebury Selectmen voted to add the request for \$25,000 for the proposed teen center to the annual town meeting's agenda. After approving the proposed budget with the understanding that the details would be decided at a later date, the board decided to place the fate of the center in the hands of the Middlebury community.

The Addison County Teens and Friends (ACT), asked the Selectboard to consider appropriating \$25,000 in funds to start the proposed program. Emily Joselson, a leader of ACT, told the Selectboard that the teen center had already received two anonymous donations totaling \$25,000 earmarked toward the budget for the teen center.

Joselson explained that ACT was hoping to receive an additional \$25,000 in funding from the town

of Middlebury.

ACT had proposed a \$50,000 budget for the startup of the new teen center, along with an additional \$10,000 coming in from other communities within Addison County. The majority of the requested funds will go toward the salary of a full-time center coordinator, a position that will be created specifically for the management of the new teen center, which is currently located in the Russ Sholes Senior Center, in the Middlebury Municipal Building.

ACT hopes that, along with providing the requested funds, the town will also absorb some of the responsibilities associated with the startup of the center, which will provide supervised activities for local teens during afternoons and evenings.

Town Selectman Bill Perkins had concerns about adding an additional employee to the town's payroll. Selectman Perkins said that

while the Selectboard hopes that the town will vote to provide funds for the coordinator position, "an employer-employee relationship with the town is not likely."

While the Selectboard expressed doubts about absorbing the administration of the teen center into a town department, it did want to ensure that ACT had adequate resources to construct the new teen center.

Selectman Perkins moved that the proposed \$25,000 be raised to \$30,000, explaining that the original proposed budget was not quite sufficient. "It was felt that \$50,000 would not be adequate to fund all the startup costs in addition to salary," Perkins said. "Amounts for benefits, office space, support services, travel, insurance, phones, etc. will be substantial."

After much discussion, the Selectboard put the issue to a vote and the increase in budget was

approved with four in favor, two opposed and one absent.

The Selectboard approved the allocation of \$30,000 toward the startup of the center, but ACT must still wait for the citizens of Middlebury to approve the article that would provide the funding for ACT.

The Middlebury community will vote on the issue at its annual town meeting on Mar. 5, 2007. Joselson was pleased with the Selectboard's decision, but realizes that the program still relies on the support of the town.

"The Selectboard supports the teen center, but ultimately, the town voters will decide," Joselson said. Although ACT must wait until March to learn of the town's decision, Joselson said they have every hope that the community will choose to support the teen center.

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The staff editorials represent the official opinions of The Middlebury Campus as decided by the Campus Editorial Board.

A new look, a new day

What do you think about it?

Three years ago this week, the 2004 staff of The Middlebury Campus launched a new look to the newspaper. Today we do it again. But this time we've gone one step farther.

In response to budget pressures and printer difficulties, today *The Middlebury Campus* officially launches a new and more efficient production schedule and paper layout that will have the student weekly of Middlebury College on newstands a whole day earlier every week. The new process will also save the Finance Committee thousands of dollars, and ensure The Campus can continue to grow and expand for years to come.

At the same time the paper is experimenting with new layouts and design "aesthetics" that will (we hope) make the paper better organized, more attractive and more accessible to our readers. Student favorites like the arts and features sections have new cover pages to showcase their inside content and lure in the casual skimmer. Regular features and columns of the paper are now anchored in shaded boxes with a distinctive new font.

Speaking of which, a host of new weekly content, from a student technology column to a sexual health writer, have landed on The Campus pages this week.

Behind the scenes, over the past semester The Campus has tripled its editing oversight. Every page of the paper is now read by nearly a dozen editors over the course of our weekly production. We hope the process will serve to better reflect Middlebury College to our readers "beyond the bubble," and more carefully prepare our writers' hard work for publication.

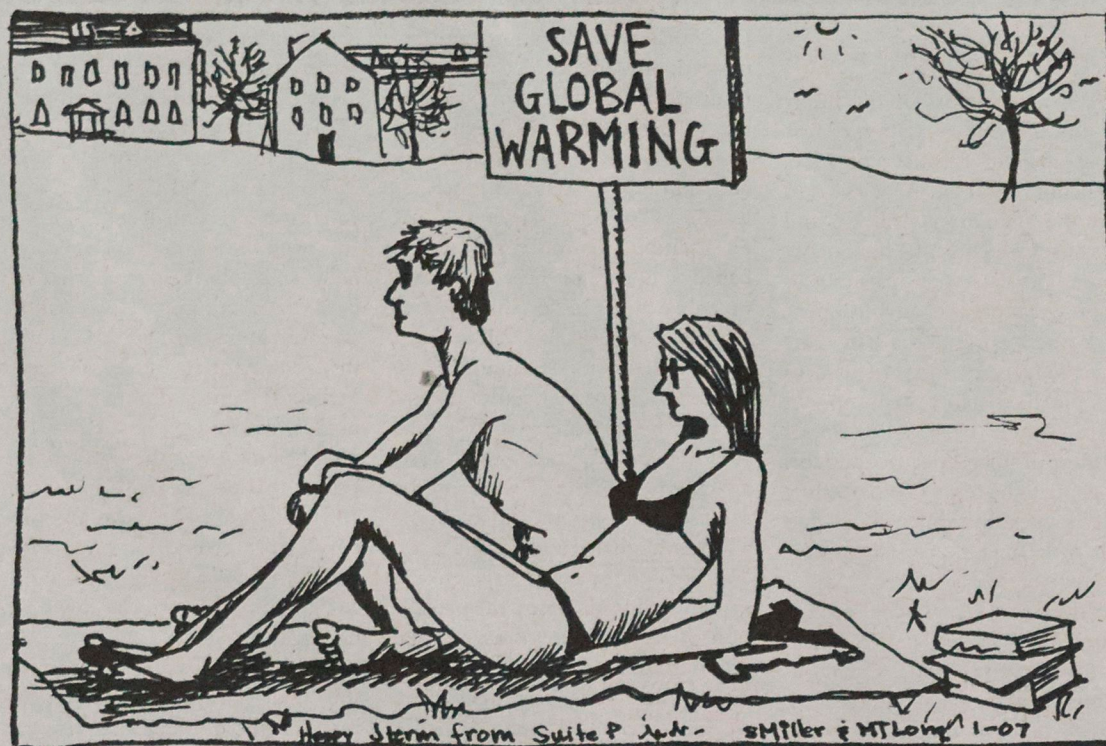
Now we invite you to tell us what you think. Starting later this week, The Campus will launch its first-ever readership survey to gather student, faculty and staff feedback, as well as feedback from our off-campus readers. We look forward to your input, and to the continued improvement of the newspaper we all enjoy.

about the campus

The Middlebury Campus (USPS 556-060), the student newspaper of Middlebury College, is published by The Middlebury Campus Publications. Publication is every Wednesday of the academic year, except during official college vacation periods and final examinations. Editorial and business offices are located in Hepburn Hall Annex, Middlebury College. The Middlebury Campus is produced on Apple Macintosh computers using Adobe InDesign 2.0 and is printed by Denton Publishing in N.Y. The advertising deadline for all display and classified advertising is 5 p.m. Friday for the following week's issue. Mailing address: The Middlebury Campus, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt., 05753. Office phone: (802) 443-5736. Business phone: (802) 443-5737. Please address distribution concerns to the Business Director. First class postage paid at Middlebury, Vt., 05753.

To contact The Middlebury Campus Publications with story tips or content suggestions, e-mail: campus@middlebury.edu

or find us on the web at:
www.middleburycampus.com



Taylor Long and Sam Miller

letter to the editor

President Liebowitz on Rehnquist

To the Editor:

The recent "sense of the faculty" resolution, offered in protest over the College's decision to accept an anonymous gift to endow a professorship in honor of William Rehnquist, diminishes, quite ironically, the very thing it seeks — the institution's commitment to "diversity." The resolution asked faculty to "reaffirm [its] commitment to diversity at Middlebury College," and stated that the honoring of Rehnquist "undermines Middlebury College's ability to promote diversity among its faculty, students and staff." The vote at the December meeting was 52-43 in favor of the resolution (note: there are 336 colleagues with faculty status who are eligible to vote).

The rationale for the motion, as presented at the December faculty meeting, misrepresents and distorts the record of Justice Rehnquist. Several of his opinions, many of which were extremely complex within their legal contexts, and continue to be debated by legal scholars, were cited with great certitude by non-specialists as evidence that Justice Rehnquist exhibited a "documented pattern of hostility" toward "historically underrepresented groups."

The one constitutional legal scholar at the faculty meeting, Professor Murray Dry, systematically refuted the superficial treatment and incorrect interpretation of the legal cases used to establish Rehnquist as anti-women, anti-gay and anti-African-American. Harvard University Law Professor Laurence Tribe, well-known to support the underrepresented groups the resolution identifies, praised Rehnquist as a "master" in his ability "to help the court earn the respect of all who take part in its proceedings or are affected by its rulings," and wrote "for that, and for the steadiness of his leadership, I will always remember him with profound gratitude and admiration." Justice Thurgood Marshall, himself a member of one of the underrepresented groups referred to in the

resolution, called Rehnquist "a great chief justice." By equating Rehnquist's views on federalism and the separation of powers on the one hand, with bigotry, racism and homophobia on the other, the faculty resolution sends the message that if you agree with a conservative point of view, or fail to see Rehnquist as the drafters of the resolution do, you are somehow opposed to diversity.

As I reported at the faculty meeting, I accepted the anonymous gift on behalf of the College to endow the Rehnquist Professorship because it is good for the College. It frees up funds for other needs, such as financial aid, faculty and staff salaries and support of our academic and co-curricular programs; it is good for the faculty, because holders of such professorships receive supplemental funding for their research and teaching, which helps them professionally; and it is good for our students, because what a faculty member can do as a result of holding such a professorship rebounds to the classroom and to the campus at-large.

The honoring of a former chief justice, though controversial because Supreme Court decisions can have such profound effects on people's private lives, was never a question for me. That does not mean I do not care about the experiences our students, faculty and staff have on campus, or that I would accept a gift to honor anyone or anything. However, my political leanings, which differ from the former Chief Justice's, should not serve as a litmus test for accepting a gift in honor of an individual, and neither should anyone else's political views. An individual's contributions and standing in his or her profession ought to guide that determination. To do otherwise narrows the range of ideas and perspectives a campus like ours is willing to entertain and debate. When that happens, we are a lesser academic community and our students suffer as a result.

Ronald D. Liebowitz
 President of Middlebury College

opinions submission policy

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's website at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Monday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

notes from the desk: **Zamir Ahmed**

Waiting on Grades

Why does it take so long for Middlebury to deliver?

I really enjoyed my parents' questions to me over Winter Break. What do you eat for lunch? Burgers and fries at Proctor on Friday. How often do you go to the gym? Not often enough. What were your grades for the fall semester? [Long pause] Good?

After enduring long hours of studying, carpal tunnel syndrome from typing papers and staving off hunger pains while waiting in line for Midnight Breakfast during finals week, what do I have to show for it? Nothing. No grades. No professor feedback. Nothing.

It's been three weeks since the last day of finals and we still have not received our grades for the fall semester. Are you telling me it takes professors that long to grade papers and exams, submit grades to the registrar and post them online?

I understand that professors have lives outside of the classroom — although last semester professors seemed to have forgotten that stu-

dents do too, judging by how much work they gave us. However, that should not mean it takes longer to get your grades back than your tax return.

Don't get me wrong. I think that grades sometimes get in the way of learning. We may write papers about things we know about already, instead of taking on new and different issues that take us out of our comfort zone and challenge us, just so that we'll get a good grade. We may study just so that we can regurgitate information on exams rather than trying to form our own opinions on things or learning facts and ideas so that we remember them forever, not just until after a test is over.

I don't care about grade that much. However, graduate schools and companies do. As do parents — and they pay the bills. Getting my grades earlier would give me a chance to beg my professors to change them before my parents

saw them. Knowing that this would fail, however, getting grades earlier would at the very least give me sufficient time to come up with some sort of excuse for why they're so low when I'm interrogated about them.

There are a few things the College could do to fix this problem. First, professors could e-mail grades to students as soon as they have them calculated. Some professors already do this, which I know I appreciate. Another solution is to post grades on BannerWeb on a rolling basis. Once professors have collected final grades for every student in a course, they can be posted online for students to access. That should speed up the process.

A third solution (one I doubt would be implemented) would be to let students grade themselves. I know what I'd get. Otherwise, how about we don't start another semester until we make sure we didn't fail out during the previous one?

op-ed: **Jessica Cox**

Continue the College's commitment to TFA

The truth behind all those attractive fliers

It would be impossible to miss the many Teach For America posters around campus, or the chalkings, the info tables and the *Campus* advertisements. Sure you've seen them and you've seen the statistics:

Nearly 1,000 low-income students started school without teachers in Phoenix this fall, and that number was over 5,000 students in the New Orleans Recovery District. Fourth graders in low-income areas are already on average two to three grade levels behind their peers in higher-income areas. While students in low-income districts are struggling to read at the Berenstain Bears' level, their peers in the higher-income suburbs are breezing through the Harry Potter books. With teacher shortages in these communities, what chance do these children have in overcoming the way our education system leaves them behind?

Compounding our nation's education gap are the many struggles these kids fight outside the classroom. Children in the communities Teach For America serves face everything from homelessness to a lack of basic healthcare, from gang violence outside their schools to parents who have to work several jobs. Entering kindergarten, these kids are facing adult challenges that are still foreign to most of us in our early twenties.

There is no easy answer to this problem, and there might not be any answer at all, but that doesn't mean we can't change things.

Since 1990, nearly 80 Middlebury alumni of all majors and career interests have committed two years to teaching in these low-income classrooms across the country through Teach For America. These teachers not only get their students on grade level, they get them ahead of their grade level. They also create tutoring programs, clubs and sports teams to offer their students the opportunities we have been lucky to enjoy.

Today, nine members of the class of 2007 have already committed to Teach For America next year, and even more will have been accepted by the time you read this. Teach For America has become one of the single-largest employers of Middlebury graduates, as recently featured in *Fortune* magazine and *The New York Times*. Because of the academic gains they inspire in their students, and the life-changing influence they have on them, Middlebury seniors are among the most sought-after can-

didates by Teach For America recruiters.

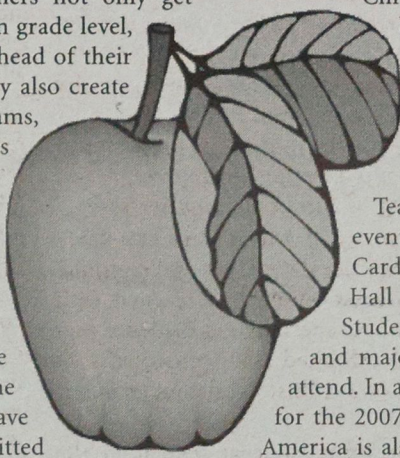
The incredible inequities in our nation's education system and the realization that I could have a life-changing impact on "my students," is what led me to join the 2007 Teach For America Chicago corps. Tonight, Teach For America Alumni Audrey Geisler, a 2004

Chicago corps member, and Jen Ellis, a 2000 North Carolina corps member, will be on campus for this year's final Teach For America event in John C. McCardell Bicentennial Hall 219 at 5:30 p.m.

Students of all years and majors are invited to attend. In addition to seniors for the 2007 corps, Teach For America is also seeking underclassmen interested in paid summer positions at their training institutes across the country.

The student-centered discussion tonight will let you in on the truth behind all of those Teach For America fliers: You can land a leadership position out of college. You can give something back. You can change things.

Jessica Cox '07 is a religion major from Missoula, Mont. and a Teach For America Campaign Manager.



heard on campus

Stafford said the courses he took at Middlebury opened him to a wider world.

— Professor of Political Science and Secretary Emeritus of the College
Eric Davis on Senator Robert Stafford

more matter (and less art):

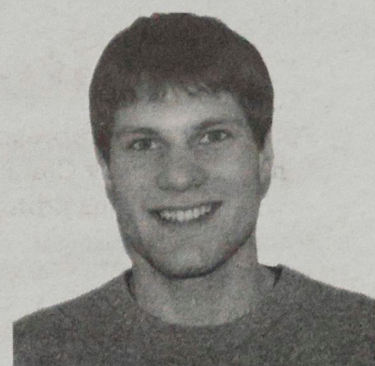
Matty van Meter

Actions speak louder than petitions

To some it would be a truism to say that action (and activism) is small and day-to-day. It seems to me that the truth of the truism is too often overlooked. Activism has become synonymous with banner waving, slogan chanting and signature collecting. I do not wish to seem a Scrooge — indeed, it seems hardly the season, with temperatures defying meteorological gravity and the Northeast a bleak panorama of grays and browns — and certainly these signature-laden operations do occasionally employ their resources effectively. Yet, the word "activism" has implicit in its very etymology "energetic action," as the OED would have it. You will forgive me if waving an angry sign at passing cars, or adding your name to an e-mail petition seems to me deeply inactive, and, in the former case, a tad self-indulgent. These trappings of activism sometimes conceal a deep and pervasive torpidity of action on a day-to-day level, and, most frequently, distract from the real processes, which are the stuff of change.

This brings me to the matter at hand. A number of faculty members wrote a letter to the Campus at the end of last November, petitioning for the College to "reaffirm our commitment to diversity." While I could add to the volumes already written on the endowment of a professorship in the name of Chief Justice Rehnquist, to which the petition is a reaction, I am primarily concerned here with this particular reaction to it. Do the signers of this letter think that this action will change actual policy even one iota? Does it constitute real action, or is it, as I suspect, a waste of time? Policy change, like any change, does not come about because a number of people, however influential or erudite, have signed a strongly worded missive.

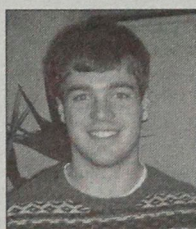
And policy change is everywhere in the letter's subtext. Implicit in this "reaffirmation" is the



desire for assertion that we are, after all, a united campus, homogenous at least in our feelings of repugnance towards Rehnquist. We are not united against the professors, nor would the cause of diversity be served if we were. These professors obviously have a heartfelt commitment to the college community and to preserving the rights of all people, but must the administration's time be wasted in reaffirming a policy which we already had, and which was in effect during and I would say upheld by the acceptance of the endowed professorship? To those who value diversity, I say that change is wrought every day. Activism is small; it is not reaffirmations of commitments to diversity. It is seemingly mundane, and yet more effective than all mission statements.

So what are these day-to-day actions, which are so vitally important? There is a saying of my Quaker ancestors: "let your life speak." Our capacity for change is not in the loud, but ultimately ineffective and confrontational writing of letters and writing of posters and slogans, but how we live our lives. So how can you change Middlebury? Turn off your lights if you're concerned about the environment, don't leave Friday night's mess for the custodians, if you support the workers, and, if you support diversity, try sitting at the "black table." It's a start, and it's real.

the web poll: What should be done about the deteriorating state of proctor?



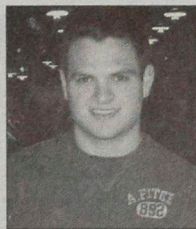
"Keep the panini machines but get rid of everything else."

— DAVE RANDOLPH '08



"I would leave Proctors as it is because it has plenty of seating and more character than the other dining halls"

— CATHERINE TENNAL '09



"We should bulldoze it because it would cost more to renovate than to just build something new."

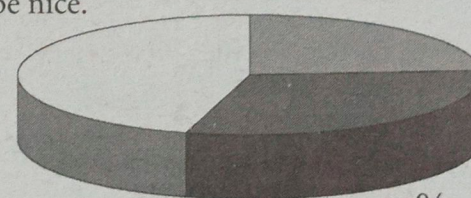
— NIKKO ARGER '07

Some renovations with student involvement would be nice.

24%

Bulldoze it and start over.

46%



31%

Leave Proctor alone. It's perfect the way it is.

Results taken from online poll: <www.middleburycampus.com>

Next week's web poll: What do you think about Bill Clinton coming to Middlebury?

in my humble opinion: Daniel Roberts From Middlebury to Manhattan

Over the break, I hopped a Greyhound (metal, not fur) and made my way to New York City for a weekend. I got into town around 10 pm, and took a cab to my buddy's apartment on 79th and Lex. I was wearing my beloved, ratty Midd sweatshirt, and I ducked out from the cab to hear, "Hey, Middlebury!" It was Ron Liebowitz.

What are the chances I would run into the president of my college on a random New York street corner late at night? The brief chat itself was not newsworthy (sorry, Liebs). The story took flight when I told my mom what happened, and she asked me if I knew about "six degrees of separation."

The theory is that any two humans are connected to each other through a chain of, at most, six individuals. One author, Frigyes Karinthy, has claimed that he feels like due to this increasing sense of connectedness, the world is "shrinking." Certainly we have all experienced this phenomenon. You meet a girl from Philly one night at a UVM party. Only later do you find out your older brother (1) had a girlfriend at Tufts (2) who ended up marrying a Harvard guy (3) and this girl you just met is his younger sister. Small world, right?

When I heard this idea I thought of



my friend who likes to joke that if we all really come from Adam and Eve then technically, every person on Earth is related by blood. Thus, no matter whom you have sex with, it is incest. Sweet theory, I know. And by sweet I mean terrifying.

Ignoring that mess, I like the six degree idea. I like the thought that I am connected to strangers on the street. For whatever reason, I thought next about "The Catcher in the Rye," when Holden finds swear words on a bathroom wall. He laments that if you had a million years, you still could not erase half the graffiti in the world. I realized, if everyone is really connected, why ever be needlessly cruel at all?

I know I sound like Mister Rogers, but stay with me here. All I am thinking is, really, wouldn't the "six degrees" theory be

a great argument against all forms of meanness? Racism, sexism, plain old rudeness — why act cruelly toward anyone if that person could be connected to you by only a few precious strands of human relationships?

I agree with those smart dead dudes: the world is shrinking. Through various connections, I hypothetically have acquaintances all over the country; more friends than K-Fed has enemies. Plus, with facebook, you can see precisely how you are linked to someone.

My friend Nick says that at Middlebury, forget six degrees; any two students are probably linked through one single person. Say in Proctor, some Frisbee kid is wearing a dress, and you point and laugh. Then you learn he lives in a suite with the shy girl you crush from Philosophy. Awkward. Now you will have to see him if you ever manage to find yourself in this girl's room. Don't you feel stupid?

So don't be mean to people for no reason. Don't flip off the guy who ran that red light: he is probably late for work, where the bad mood you put him in will cause him to mistreat his secretary, who happens to be the daughter of your dad's golf buddy. Six degrees, baby! I love it. I just hope my friend's incest theory is way off, or we are all going to Hell. Flaming hot Hell.

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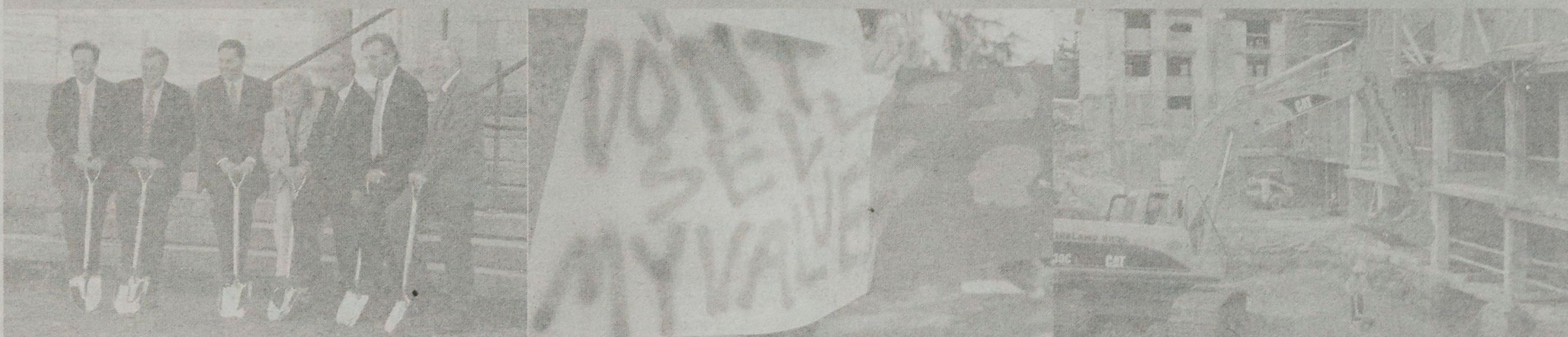
the most read news of 2006

What were the big stories of 2006?

Was it Roberts or the controversial professorship he helped announce? Was it the “blazing” chandelier fire in Ross or the backpack theft outside Atwater? Was it one of those master-strategic-all-inclusive plans coming out of Old Chapel or was it the proposal from the SGA to make an open senior draw?

**You’ve been voting with your mouse every time you’ve clicked on an online article
here’s what you said....**

page 13



sex sage

Sage has a New Year’s resolution that doesn’t require diet, exercise, or doing your work, page 14



what’s up with the weather?

Pinch yourself, are you dreaming? Is it all too good to be true? We had to ask. page 12

newton’s law

Tom tackles love me tenders and YouTube. Did Google pay too much for a problem?, page 13



Summer breeze heats up J-Term

By Aylie Baker
FEAUTRES EDITOR

Crocuses are blooming in New Jersey. People are waterskiing in Minnesota. This past Saturday, students were wearing shorts here in Vermont. It's still only the beginning of winter, but things are certainly heating up.

This winter across the country, people are shedding coats and mittens to bask in balmy, record-setting temperatures. In fact, in many places it's almost as though winter has not yet arrived. According to the *Associated Press*, New York City experienced a November and December without snow for the first time since 1877.

Vermont has been no exception to this phenomenon. Already this year, there have been several days with record-high temperatures and for many Vermonters, this winter stands out as one of the warmest ever. "I've been living here my whole life," said Celey Schumer '09 of St. Albans, Vermont, "and I really can't remember a winter like this one — one with so little snow, or with temperatures that hadn't dropped below ten degrees."

Don Mitchell, lecturer in English & Film and Media Culture as well as a part-time farmer, has lived through 32 winters in Vermont and echoes Schumer's sentiments. For Mitchell, "This is certainly the mildest 'winter' [he's experienced] by far. By far."

So what's the cause? The warm spell could be due to a number of

factors, insist meteorologists. El Niño, the cyclical warming of ocean waters in the Pacific Ocean, can cause warmer weather, particularly in the Northeast. Or perhaps it's the jet stream, a high-altitude air current which essentially acts as a buffer to warm Southern air, which CNN reports is running much farther North than usual over the East Coast this year.

Many meteorologists insist that short-term fluctuations in the weather are normal. After all, winter is not yet over. Some forecasters predict that the arctic air masses are likely to sweep through later in January, perhaps prolonging the winter into the spring months.

But this year's mild winter is not such an anomaly in comparison to recent years. In fact, it's likely the continuation of a trend. According to *USA Today*, of the top 25 warmest years recorded in U.S. history, 15 of them have occurred since 1981.

The National Climatic Data Center recently released data indicating that 2006 was the warmest winter in U.S. history. In Vermont, last winter was declared the 10th warmest on record in Burlington.

"I can't help wondering and worrying, of course, about the extent to which this warm and wet winter is a 'typical anomaly,'" explained Mitchell. Like many other Vermonters, he is concerned about "the extent to which it's a startlingly clear assertion of the long term 'global warming' trend that we've all been made well aware of in re-



Ilhan Kim

Protected by his umbrella, Alex Wellman '07 kicks back with a tasty beverage, basking in the heat of the winter.

cent years."

In addition to confirming fears regarding global warming, this year's winter has had a major effect on Vermont's industry and agriculture. Ask any member of the Middlebury Ski Team, and they'll tell you how few days they've had on the trails this winter, and, in their sparing practices, how few trails have been open. Ski resorts aren't the only ones suffering. Sales of snowmobiles, shovels, snow blowers and winter apparel are all lagging.

The repercussions of warmer winter weather have not been entirely negative. According to the *Burlington Free Press*, Vermont maple trees began running sap much earlier this past spring, significantly boosting maple syrup revenues. Many Vermonters were also spared

a seemingly imminent heating crisis due to the milder climate. With warmer weather, those Vermonters struggling to heat their houses due to rising oil prices emerged into springtime relatively unscathed.

Despite these positive effects, one thing is certain: If warm winters are to continue, industry and agriculture will have to shift dramatically. While Mitchell insists that he is no expert in climatology, he is sure of at least one thing, "If we're looking at a long term shift in the sort of weather we've come to expect here in Vermont — and I'm referring as much to the excessive rainfall as the warmer temperatures — then agriculture as we've come to know it here will need to be rethought from the ground up," he said. The forage species grown locally as feed

for livestock are suited to weather patterns very different from those that we've experienced in Vermont over the last two years. Indeed, if this year's mild winter proves not an anomaly but rather the beginning of a trend, asserts Mitchell, "the consequences for area farmers are rather catastrophic." Warm, sunny days are always a treat — no matter what time of year. Yet when we begin to experience weeks of summer-y weather in the midst of winter, one cannot help but feel eerily unsettled. "At first it was weird, but now it's definitely getting scary," said Schumer.

So, while the College may be saving a bundle on heat this winter, 60 degree weather in the beginning of January certainly begs the question: where are we headed?

Men in white ribbons unite to stem violence against women

By Polly Johnson
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Visitors to the New Library were met on Monday with a bulletin board providing information on the White Ribbon Campaign (WRC), which seeks to educate men about violence against women. The campaign, which relies on volunteer support and financial contributions from individuals and organizations, was begun in Canada in 1991 by a group of men who felt an obligation to speak out about violence against women.

The group decided on the white ribbon as the symbol of men's opposition to male violence against females. According to the WRC's website, the white ribbon stands as a "personal pledge never to commit, condone nor remain silent about violence against women."

The cause has grown rapidly and 16 years after its inception, it is the largest effort by men to speak out about the issue of violence against women. With thousands of volunteers, the WRC is continuing to expand and grow, and is now represented in 50 countries. The website explains that participation in White Ribbon committees is "open to any man who is opposed to violence against women, who is committed to equality between women and men, and who is committed to examining and challenging violence in his own life."

Under the direction of John Beattie, who works with the counseling staff at the College on men's issues and issues of safety on campus, a group of College males adopted the cause in the fall, in an effort to "publicize the issue of violence against women, the opportunity and obligation men have to address this issue and to offer men on campus an opportunity to sign a pledge," according to Beattie. He added, "Too often, men, when this topic is raised, are seen as perpetrators or possible offenders, when in actuality men can be a very powerful positive force in confronting abusive peers."

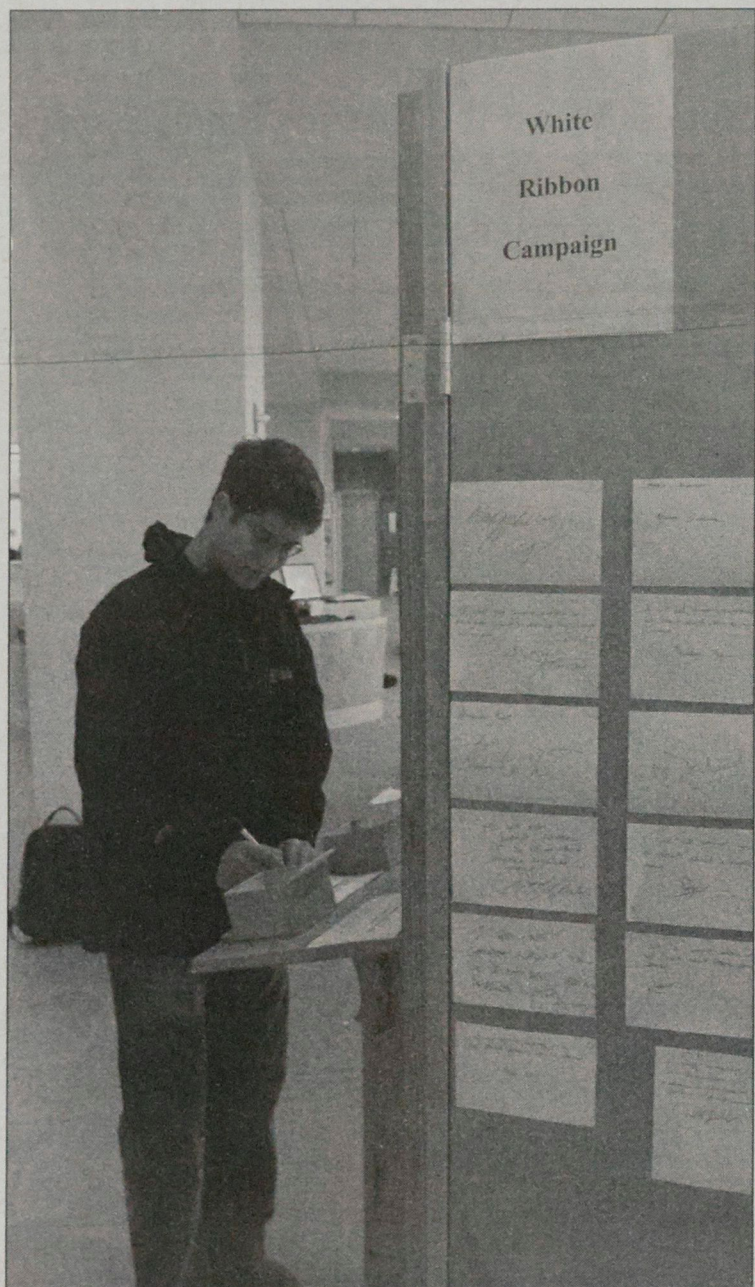
While the WRC at Middlebury is still in its early stages, Beattie said that they "have discussed a great many avenues they might explore," adding that he feels "confident that all of the men involved recognize the importance of the issue and share a commitment to keeping the topic a presence on campus." Some possibilities include working with local schools in the area, with the intent of expanding the cause to the greater community.

Member Matthew Macfarlane '09 emphasized that the group was still in the planning stages but is planning to mount a bigger campaign over J-Term, after its initial meeting. Explaining his decision to join the campaign, he described it as "a really interesting idea, something that is not talked about and is

very hush-hush," and an issue that should be examined and tackled from "a guy's perspective." Member Nick Ballen '09 echoed, "We felt that it would be a positive and fresh message to have an anti-domestic violence campaign run solely by men."

Will Hunt '07.5, who is not a member of the WRC but who signed the bulletin board in the library, said of his reasons for supporting the cause, "I have friends and family who are victims of abuse and I've seen how devastating it can be. When I hear these stories and cringe at how monstrous these men are, part of me is wondering, 'Can I, as a man, band together with other men to prevent this from happening?' The White Ribbon Campaign operates under this ethic and I think it fills an important role in anti-abuse activism."

It is the hope of Beattie and all the male members of Middlebury's White Ribbon Campaign to continue to raise and spread awareness both on campus and in the larger community. Beattie acknowledged the seemingly insignificant yet extremely powerful act of wearing a ribbon, stating, "Although signing a pledge to remain non-violent and to confront violence when it appears may seem like a small effort, being responsible examples for other men is certainly the single most important action a man can take."



Chris Heinrich

Showing his support for the mission of the White Ribbon Campaign, Jeff Olson '07 signs one of the postcards that was displayed in the New Library.

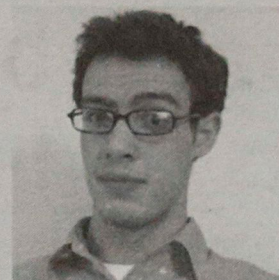


the most read news of 2006

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- 1 Students stunned by loss of Norbert Vaughn '10 (Nov. 30)
- 2 Professors challenge Rehnquist Professorship (Nov. 2)
- 3 Delta Social House evicted from Prescott (June 19)
- 4 College upholds early admissions program (Oct. 12)
- 5 Friends mourn Mark Southern (March 30)
- 6 Popular Dog Team Tavern destroyed by fire (Sept. 14)
- 7 Forum reaffirms Commons' future (Dec. 7)
- 8 College jumps in the guidebook rankings (Sept. 14)
- 9 Students face Facebook's realities (Sept. 21)
- 10 Rehnquist protesters engage Old Chapel (Nov. 16)
- 11 Late-night fight reveals racial tensions (Feb. 23)
- 12 Students literally living in the library (Dec. 7)
- 13 Swim team's season ended in controversy (Feb. 16)
- 14 College remembers Sammy Muhlfelder (Dec. 7)
- 15 Feb program scaled back (Sept. 14)
- 16 Winter Sports Preview (Nov. 16)
- 17 Liebowitz setting \$500 million goal (Nov. 16)
- 18 Mr. Ups cited for serving minors (Mar. 9)
- 19 Admissions numbers up (Jan. 26)
- 20 Early applications up (Nov. 9)
- 21 Local press pries into assault case (May 4)
- 22 Police investigate assault in Delta case (April 22)
- 23 Fall Sports preview (Sept. 14)
- 24 Roberts at Mead (Oct. 26)
- 25 Kelly Brush recuperating from ski accident (May 4)

Based on article hits as of December 31, 2006.



newton's laws

by Thomas Newton

Want fries with your YouTube?

You're in the Grille, it is 1 a.m. and your stomach is begging you to eat. The cashier impatiently and not so subtly taps her pencil. All the while you ponder: chips or fries with the Love Me Tender Wrap? Oh the pressure. Spend the extra 75 cents on fries or settle for the chips?

Dealing with these small economic decisions, it's hard for most of us Midd Kids to relate to the enormity of corporate investments. Sure, we throw down \$45,000 a year to come and chill in the good old 802, but while on campus our economic decisions are limited to mostly small purchases. As such, when we hear that Google spent \$1.65 billion to purchase YouTube, it is difficult to comprehend. After all, Google spent the equivalent of 330 million Love Me Tender wraps with fries. Now that's a lot of cheddar.

We all know that YouTube is a website popular for its content of user-created music videos, movie trailers, TV shows and awesomely random videos ("Shoes", anyone?) but would you really trade 330 million Love Me Tenders just for the ownership of a company? You would have to be fairly sure that the company would give you an incredible return on your investment. So was Google wise in purchasing YouTube?

Many say no, mainly due to pending copyright infringement litigations. YouTube users are forbidden to upload videos that they do not have the rights to on the video upload screen, but as is apparent with the number of the site's pirated videos, not all abide. Google becomes liable for these violations, and as Google has a much bigger bank account than YouTube had by itself, the new YouTube will be a much larger target. It is even rumored that several hundred million dollars of the purchase price was set aside to cover lawsuits, of which several have cropped up since the purchase.

One example in particular illustrates just how much trouble Google could be in with YouTube. The case involved Daniela Cicarelli, a Brazilian model and the ex-wife of soccer star Ronaldo, who sued YouTube for a video posted on the site of her and her boyfriend having sex on a beach. The suit demanded \$116,000 for every day that the video remained online. The case culminated with a court order that YouTube be shut down as long as the video was available to users. As it was a Brazilian court, however, the ruling did not have any standing in the US.

Google's investment in YouTube could be seen as a serious blunder, due to the legal issues of copyright infringement. But, in fact, their purchase of YouTube was a very savvy move on the part of their CEO, Dr. Eric Schmidt, as user created and supported sites are the current "in" model. Yes, Google will have to deal with more lawsuits, but the depth of their pockets should render those issues insubstantial. The revenues from advertising alone on YouTube will be more than enough to cover any damages incurred, and Google is sure to find new ways to squeeze profit out of the site. It's only a matter of time before Google will be willing to give up even more Love Me Tenders for the rights to Facebook.com.



sexsage

by Sage Biester

I've made a New Year's resolution: Before the end of J-term, I will ask someone on this campus out on a date. It's not exactly a classic resolution, like "stop smoking" or "Go to the gym more often", and you might ask why this would be at the top of my New Year's list. To be honest, it's because in all my years at Middlebury I've never been on a date, and I feel that maybe I'm missing out on some important life experience. Maybe dating seems insignificant to us Midd kids, but to the world outside of our infamous bubble, the non-existence of dating is downright bizarre. I have to wonder how we accomplish such mythic rates of inter-Midd marriages if we can't muster up the courage to ask each other out for coffee, a drink or, *God forbid*, dinner. How is it that I, your average Middlebury student, have never been on a date?

Perhaps this topic has been on my mind lately because I've come down with, as one male friend of mine put it, the "I just got back from abroad" syndrome. Seniors and juniors returning from far away lands are stricken with a feeling that everything seems worse here than in whatever fabulous place they were not so long ago. I have bemoaned more than once this past semester the differences between Middlebury and my year abroad, especially in terms of my experience with the opposite sex. I have realized that the problem is not the quality of men here vs. those abroad but rather the lack of quantity. Our campus is much smaller than any city and it's easier to meet people and casually date when there are millions, not a couple thousand, to choose from.

What's more, I have a small thing called "a fear of rejection" that gets in the way sometimes. Instead of risking a brutal rebuke, I find myself slowly turning into a stalker, silently obsessing about cute boys I never talk to but whom I know everything about. I also psych myself out thinking about what might happen if I went out on a date: Everyone will find out about it, assume I'm in a steady relationship, tell me even more dirt about the guy and then the mystery is essentially stripped from getting to know each other.

Despite the challenges, I'm determined to keep my New Year's resolution, and I remain hopeful that dating (or its non-existence) doesn't have to be this way at Middlebury, for me or for anyone else. How many crushes have we all had that never went anywhere? Instead of wondering if that guy and I might have hit it off, I want to find out for myself. If you've already stopped going to the gym and bought a pack of cigs, I encourage you to adopt this resolution, instead; ask someone on a date this J-Term, who knows what you're missing.

a random spotlight on... Will Drucker '08.5

Today, a new tradition is born. Each week, *The Campus* will attempt to paint a more intimate picture of our student body by featuring a short interview with a student selected at random. In our inaugural edition, Will Drucker responds.

CHILDHOOD AMBITION... To visit every square inch of land on the earth, literally. I soon realized this would take the better part of multiple lifetimes, good shoes and a steady cash flow.

GREATEST FEAR... The human population and climate change.

INSPIRATION... Ernest Shackleton.

FONDEST MEMORY... Getting my first guitar.

RETREAT... Canoeing in Quetico Provincial Park in Ontario, Canada.

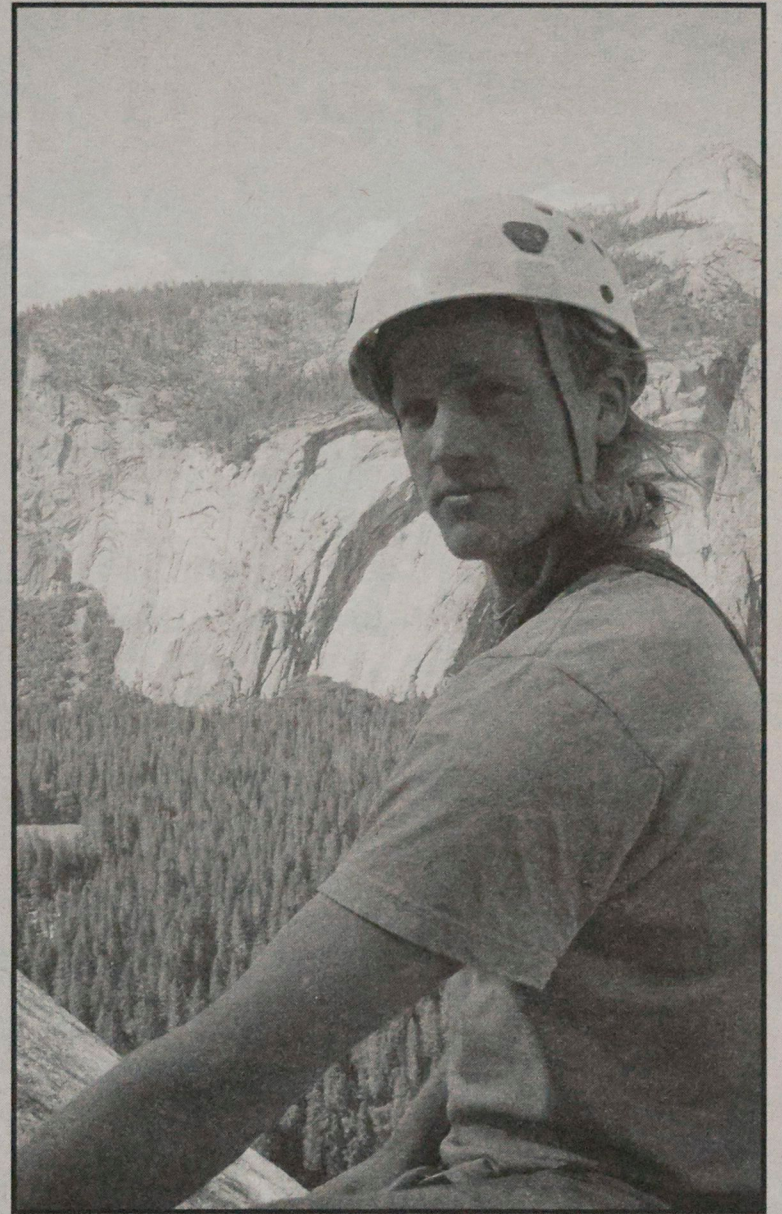
SOUNDTRACK... Radiohead's "Amnesiac" followed closely by the Talking Heads' "Stop Making Sense."

LAST PURCHASE... A \$30 couch for my room which fits so perfectly it's almost unsettling

INDULGENCE... Coffee, hummus and climbing gear

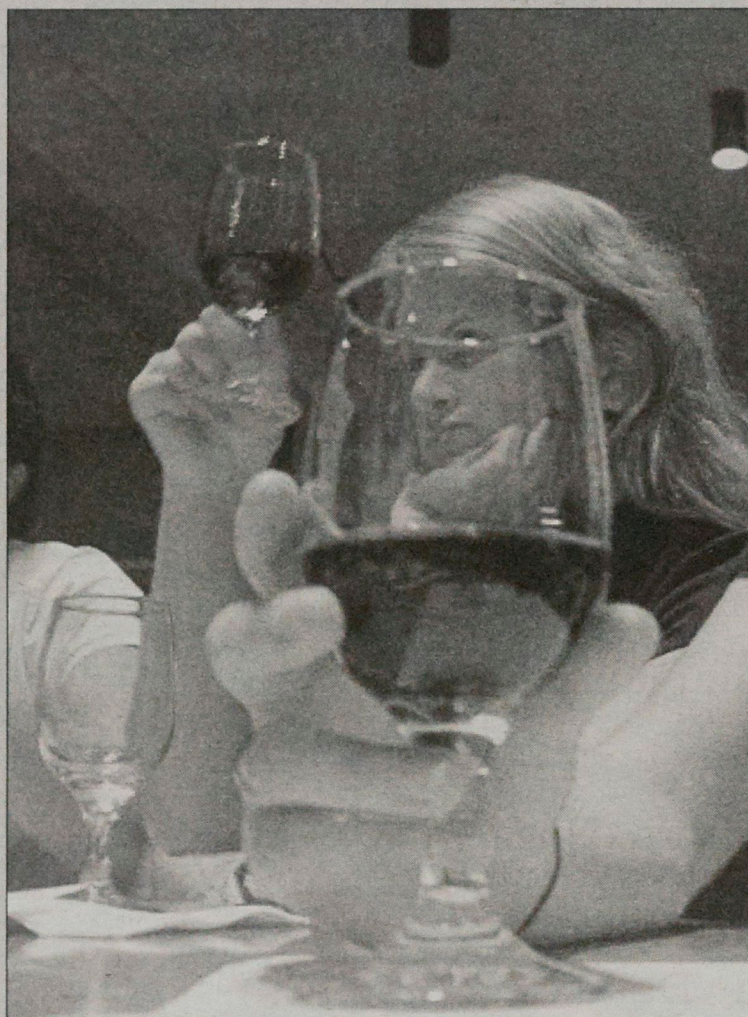
WILDEST DREAM... To be able to travel every square inch of the planet, still.

—Joseph Bergan



Courtesy

Raise a glass...



Alyson Bourne

Gazing into her wine glass, a deeply inquisitive Polly Johnson '07.5 ponders the color, taste and depth of her wine in the J-term workshop, "Introduction and Survival Guide to Wine." The workshop, taught by Manager for Retail Operations David Kerin, introduces students 21 and over to the finer points of wine. The workshop is comprised of four 90-minute classes, introducing participants to issues such as etiquette, service, selection, storage and presentation/serving as well as information regarding the history and geography of wine. Guest speakers will come to speak about current issues on wine and the class will conclude with champagne for all.

WINNERS & LOSERS

What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture? *The Campus* gives its weekly report.

J-Term weather

People talking about the weather

Who needs snow when you can have beautiful rain!

Yes, it is warm. No I cannot believe it.

Real World: Denver

Real World/Road Rules Challenge

Proof that you absolutely have to find your future mate at Middlebury.

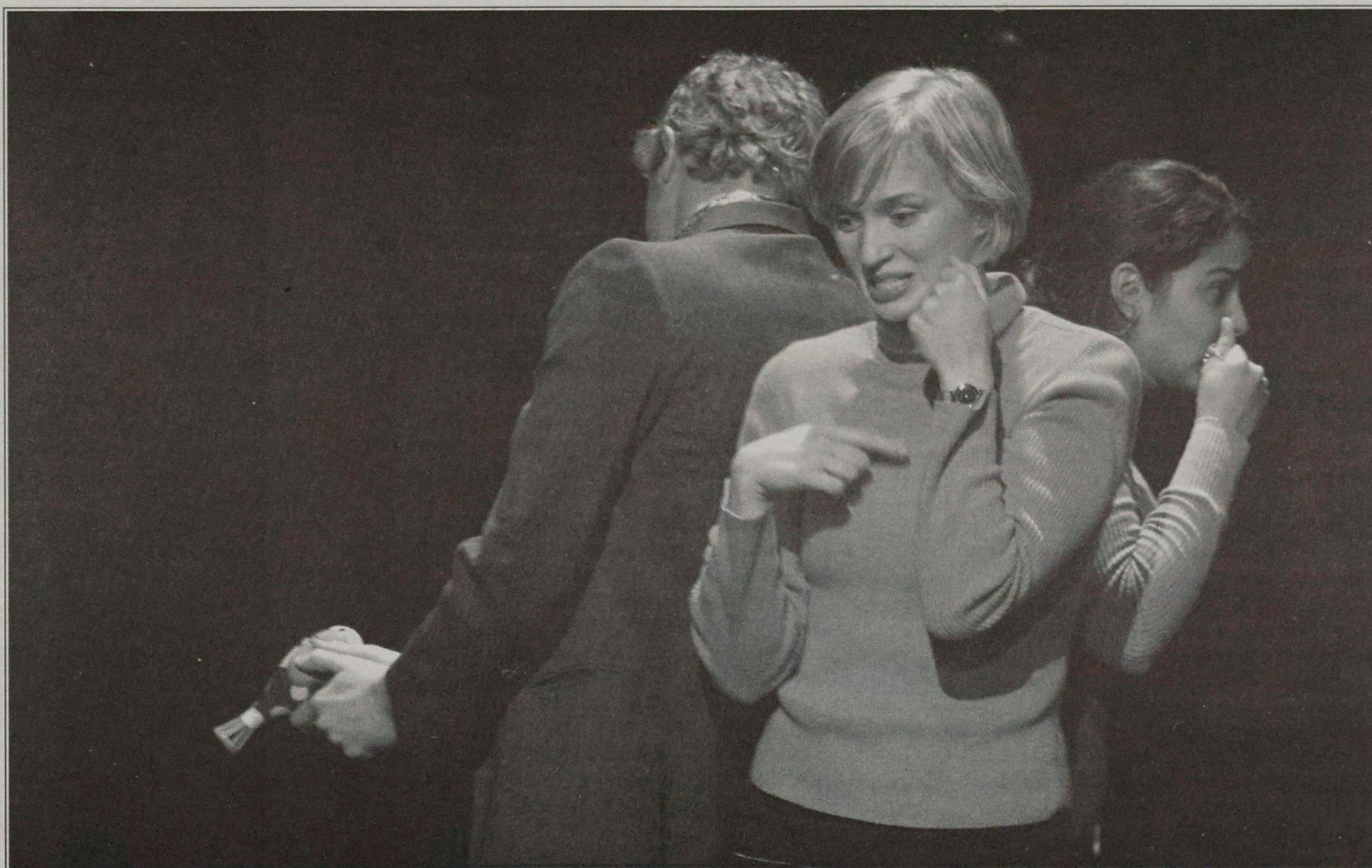
You are 30, please stop completing ropes courses on MTV for a brand new Kia.

Being home for the holidays

Being home for the holidays

Clean sheets, great food.

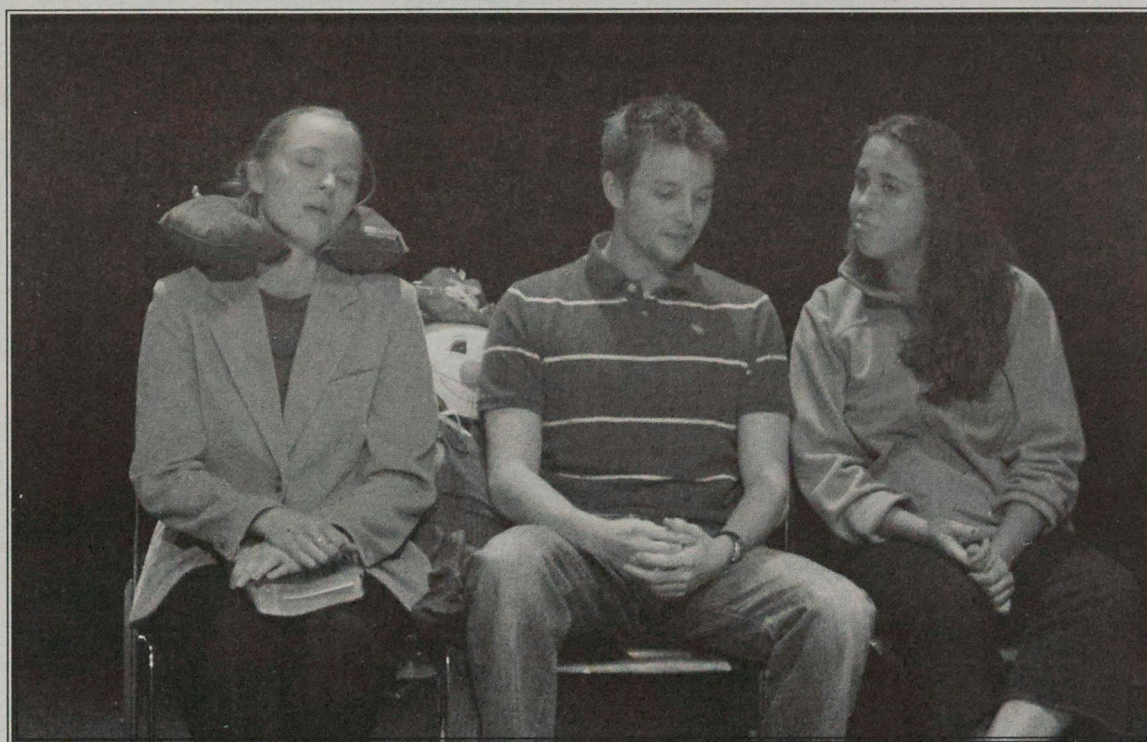
Sketchy high school flames, sitting at the kids table.



Genius Under Pressure

by Sara Jameson • photography by Ilhan Kim

Five playwrights, five directors, sixteen actors and twenty-four hours — is this a recipe for imminent disaster or creative epiphany? On Friday evening at 8 p.m. students gathered to compose and produce creative works which would then be performed at 8 p.m. the next evening in the hallowed Hepburn Zoo. Did these time-deprived, ambitiously optimistic students beat the clock or did they crumble under the tick-tocking tension?



Above: Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki '08, Erin Twohig '06.5 and Natasha Chacon '10 in "Deck the Halls."

Below: Julia Proctor '06.5, Ryan Hart '06.5 and Casey Donahue '10 in "Anywhere Air."

editor picks

06

**Ingmar Bergman
Film Series**
Dana Auditorium
Jan 6 - 25th at 7:30

The Scandinavian Student Association and the Program in Film and Media Culture has collaborated to introduce the Middlebury community to Ingmar Bergman — Sweden's greatest director whose films never produce a lukewarm reaction.

13

**Meridian Arts
Ensemble**
CFA Concert Hall
8 p.m.

Come witness the eclectic music of the five brass musicians and one percussionist who comprise the Meridian Arts Ensemble. Join these "musical iconoclasts" as they play Renaissance music, Frank Zappa and everything in between. Also included are works by Su Lian Tan.

**Let Freedom
Sing!**
Mead Chapel
7 p.m.

15

Maestro Francois Clemmons and the members of the Middlebury Spiritual Choir lead this annual celebration of the American Negro Spiritual and the words of Dr. Martin Luther King. Actor Esau Pritchett will deliver an emotional interpretation of Dr. King's words.

19

**When I Was a
Child**
Hepburn Zoo
Friday 8 p.m.

Presented by Professor of Film and Media Culture Ted Perry and artist Hans Breder, this work seeks to portray the lives of children in wartime and is based upon the personal experiences of Perry and Breder who grew up during World War II.

Conception to curtain in twenty-four hours

Playwrighting on the fly lands laughs with Middlebury audience

By Sara Jameson
ARTS EDITOR

At eight o'clock last Friday night, five playwrights, five directors and sixteen actors gathered in the Hepburn Zoo ready to challenge their creative ingenuity and alacrity. Twenty-four hours later, five fresh, creative and engaging plays were performed. The event, created and hosted by Caitlin Dennis '06.5, was officially Middlebury College's first "24 Hour Play Festival." The evening truly stretched the artistic limits of every participant and attracted the eager attention of an unexpectedly large and enthusiastic audience.

The playwrights, directors, and actors (who were each asked to bring a random prop) were divided up into five theatrical groups. The playwrights had from eight o'clock Friday night until eight the following morning to compose their pieces, incorporating at least three of the props within their skit. When time was up, the plays were given to the different groups and the directors and actors proceeded to make the works their own. The turnout was tremendous. By eight o'clock Saturday night, the Zoo was packed with an extremely engaged audience. The plays not only exuded originality but held genuine creative merit as well.

The creative possibilities that resulted from the endeavor attracted a great amount of support. When asked how she came up with the idea, Dennis replied, "Theatre companies in New York and other cities hold events like this quite often, and when I first heard about the conceit from Alex Draper I got very excited and realized we could

do that here, no problem. And that it would be perfect for 24 hours in J-Term." And so with an almost overwhelming amount of support, Dennis's event turned out to be an enormous success.

The five plays ranged greatly in thematic and emotional content, though most of the works employed comedic elements. Willie Orbison's '08, "Love and Purgatory" presented two oblivious dead lovers, stuck in purgatory, who grapple with their approaching sentence of eternity spent in either heaven or hell; Samantha Collier's '09 darker play, "Full of Stuffin," portrays the strained family dynamic of two sisters — one unhappily pregnant, the other neglected — and a mother who chooses to ignore reality completely; Haylee Freeman's '06, "Deck the Halls" details the emotional journey of a woman driven literally off the walls by the fake and empty holiday season; Emily Feldman's '09, "The Scottish Play," presents three girls about to compete in an audition and their various tactics of success. Finally Lucas Kavner's '06 hilarious play, "Anywhere Air," depicted an airline designed to take its passengers to any random destination of the pilot's choosing and the four equally strange passengers who must come to terms with their own desires for suspense in their lives. Each play exhibited immense creativity and artistic merit — especially considering the time constraint. The comedic talent of the playwrights and actors were especially impressive, including the goofy, Tourettes-stricken flight attendant, Sally (Lisa Zaval '07) and the frumpy bookworm Helen (Dawn Loveland '09) who strips

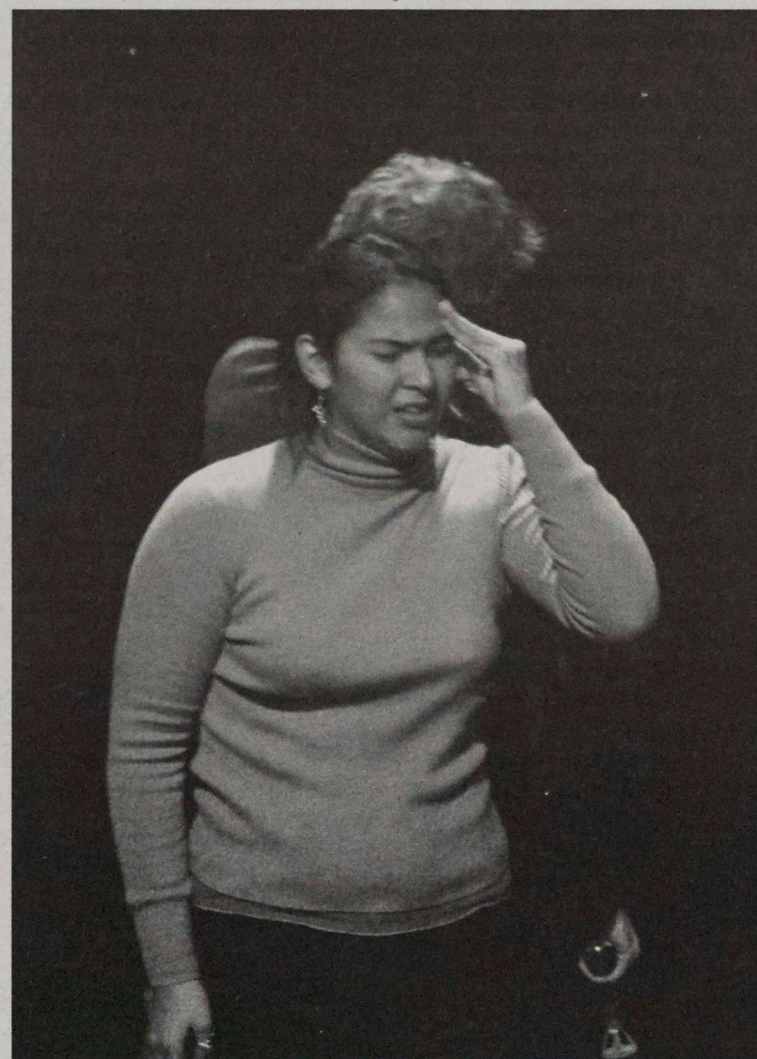
off her dowdy sweater to perform the techno version of her audition piece, "To Be...Or Not To Be."

Most challenging and even rewarding to playwright, actor and director alike was the demanding time limit of the production. Most participants, however, responded favorably to such a challenge. "Writing under the time constraint was exciting because there wasn't time to censor impulses, and I think that was incredibly freeing," stated playwright Emily Feldman '09.

Actor Julia Proctor '06.5 shared the same sentiment, commenting, "I often over-analyze my character development since I have so much time to work out different options and choices, but I found it freeing to play around with options and then make a quick character choice and feel committed to the decision."

Actor Dawn Loveland added "One of the great things about being introduced with a script and performing it 12 hours later was that decisions had to be made so fast. We had to make choices and run with them, which resulted in spontaneous, natural moments that may not have occurred if we spent days working on the material."

One of the overarching sentiments voiced by the participants was the invaluable experience they gained from the exercise. "Writing in the 24 hours plays festival forced me to remember how collaborative the theatre process can be," commented playwright Feldman. "The actors and directors played a huge role in creating the tone of each piece." Director Leah Day '07 also voiced her new appreciation for the theatrical process: "This was an incredibly exciting and hands-on way of bringing together the rather vast



Ilhan Kim

Natasha Chacon '10 bemoans the Christmas season in "Deck the Halls" — a dark comedy that had audiences questioning their laughter.

and vivacious theatre department. I think everyone involved got a real sense of how plays are adapted from paper and brought to life which, in the context of the festival, was truly magical to watch."

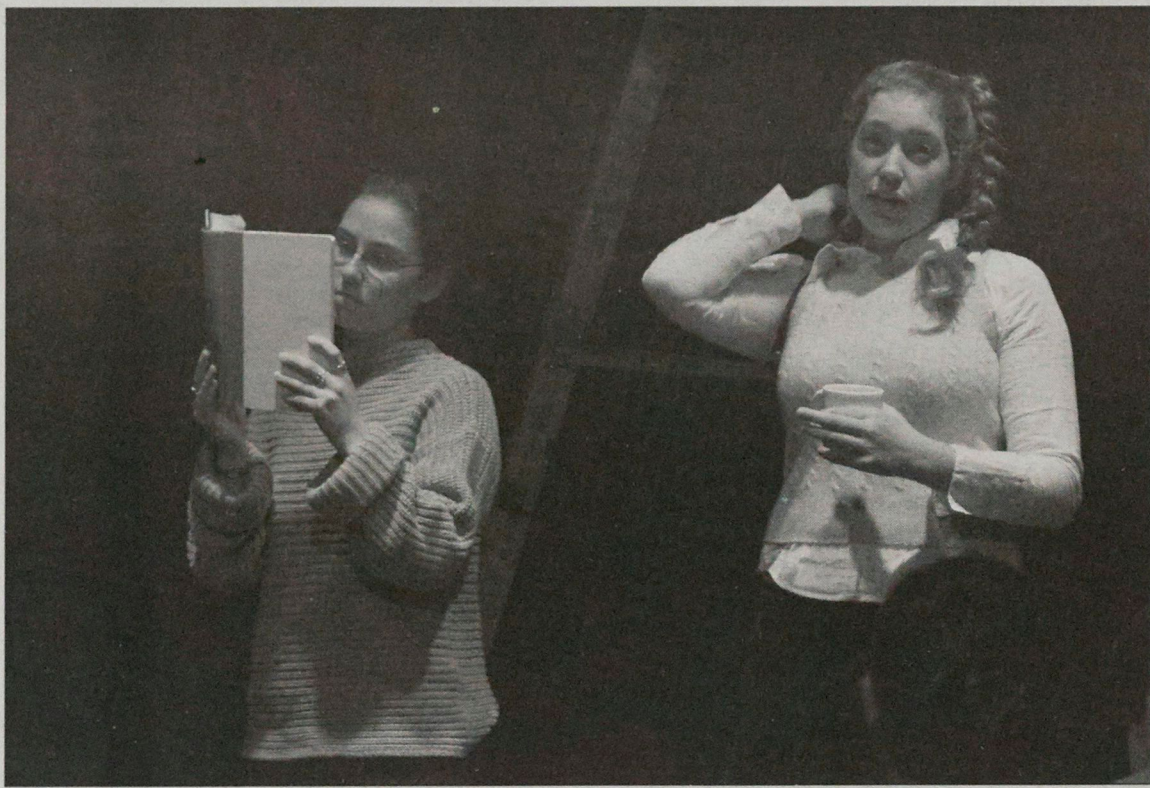
It was not only the creative ingenuity that made this event so extraordinary, but also the incredible amount of audience support and enthusiasm that accompanied the festival.

"The most exhilarating part of the experience was seeing the huge turnout of people who wanted to see the show, and that magnitude of support lent a special energy to the evening," observed Feldman. "Not in a million years did I expect such a large turnout," marveled Dennis, "the Zoo was more full than I've ever seen it, way over capacity, and we still had to turn away over 50 people at the door. Many of them returned for the impromptu 10 p.m. show, but it's too bad not everyone got to experience the production. Even so, I'm really thankful we found an audience with this kind of production. It was a different kind of Zoo show — a lot of new faces in the audience, and that's always exciting. It just felt so wonderful to have a room full of support after 24 hours of really intense and dedicated work. It was electric, and I think we all could feel it."

Despite the pressure of the time constraint and limited resources, the festival was a rewarding experience for all who participated and especially for all who attended. "I had a great experience with the 24 Hour Play Festival," declared actor Ryan Hart '06, "The idea of being handed a script on the morning of the show seemed daunting, but I knew we had not only talented, but also (and probably more importantly in this case) highly-motivated writers, directors and actors involved. It was amazing; by the end of the second performance, it felt like we'd been working on the show for weeks." No doubt all audience members felt the same amazement at the plays' coherence and energy and the ability of the actors to perform so well after such little preparation. "I'm very proud of everyone," stated Dennis.

"We have a great group of artists here. I think this event is truly a testament to Middlebury theatre, and what talent and dedication can accomplish in a short amount of time. I hope that other classes continue the tradition and that this becomes an annual J-Term project."

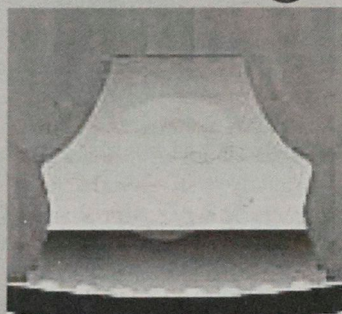
Whether the festival becomes tradition or not, the show succeeded most importantly in exhibiting the collective genius of Middlebury students and their inspiring ability to challenge themselves.



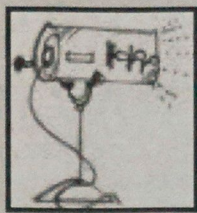
Ilhan Kim

Dawn Loveland '09 and Jacquie Antonson '10 exhibited talent and energy in their portrayals of competitive teenagers.

Coming attractions at the Hepburn Zoo...



While Middlebury students are cultivating foreign tongues, exploring their budding or decidedly dormant artistic talents or mastering masochistic tendencies in the chemistry labs this winter term, fellow peers are dedicating hours of valuable ski time to bring "When I Was a Child" to the Zoo stage Friday Jan. 19 and Saturday Jan. 20. Produced by Professor of Film and Media Culture Ted Perry and artist Hans Breder, it previously played in Dallas and Borsdona, and promises to be a provocative evening of theatre.



Spotlight on... Andrew Throdahl

Andrew Throdahl '09 is an accomplished pianist who recently performed three pieces in a concert at the end of semester. Throdahl has been playing the piano for almost twelve years and won the 2006 Concerto Competition. He is happy

to be attending Middlebury College, where he studies with Diana Fanning. He manages to successfully balance music and academics; following his passion for the piano while exploring other areas of study.

The Middlebury Campus: So many times kids will drop an instrument out of boredom or frustration – what made you persevere?

Andrew Throdahl: I've always loved music and I think I had the appreciation for music before I started playing it. I think that's what helped. Sometimes kids are thrown into piano lessons and they don't really like the music...I guess I had some incentive because I always really liked classical music and it was so exciting to play it and know that I would one day be able to play harder pieces.

TC: Does it ever bother you that in college you have so many things conflicting with your piano? Why did you come to a liberal arts college?

AT: Well, I've met some people who have gone to conservatory and I was really struck by the fact that the only thing they do is music and they're not well rounded. They can't really articulate how they feel about music. I just don't feel like it's a full education. Maybe you're not as focused at a liberal arts school, but at least you get the whole shebang...not just one facet. I think that's for grad school. I mean, here you're doing other things that inspire you as well.

TC: Is there a specific composer you like to play? Or is there a time period or musical movement that especially interests you?

AT: Well, I like all composers. But I have to say, I love Beethoven. I've only played one Beethoven Sonata, because I'm pretty much scared to go near it. It's so heavy. I think that you have to be very mature to play it well.

TC: Last year you won the Concerto Competition. What was it

like playing with the orchestra?

AT: Oh, it was great! I think it's psychologically better to play with an orchestra than it is to be alone on stage. And with the concerto, it's not like you're playing the whole time...you'll have these pauses where you can listen to the orchestra. It was so much fun.

TC: What would you say your goals as a pianist are? Do you see yourself going from here professionally?

AT: I think I've realized that it's so hard to make it professionally as a pianist...I just don't think that it's a practical career choice. I mean, I think it's wonderful to continue with it and to learn new pieces, but I don't think I'll be pursuing it professionally. Actually, composing has been this great new interest of mine. I think it's always been in the back of my head as something I'd want to do. It wasn't until college that I've actually tried it, so I feel like I'm growing with that interest. And piano feeds composing. That's why I've been continuing with it, because I get ideas and I start to understand music better when I play the pieces. Composition is really starting to take a central place in my musical interests.

TC: How do you practice? Is it a lot of repetition and measure by measure work?

AT: Diana Fanning, my teacher, is so intense about when you make a mistake you have to go over it until it's perfect. And just continuing to layer things like that until it's all there. I think that's how I memorize the piece, from just repeating it so much, developing that muscle memory in my fingers. I mean, it's a painful way to practice, but it's so rewarding because it will always be there, and I can play the pieces whenever. I haven't practiced the pieces since the concert, and yet I can still play through them.

-Sara Jameson



Marie Horbar



for the record

by Emily Temple

A new year has arrived and along with the confetti, champagne and plastic noisemakers inevitably must come the "best of" list of every self-proclaimed music connoisseur, online news source and music magazine. It's tiring, I know. But get prepared for yet another, because what would a columnist be without stalwart opinions on things that matter little? I claim no ultimate judgment power, but I do get to tell you what I like, so here's what's been spinning my dial just right this past year.

1. The Hold Steady – Boys and Girls in America:

The new album is superb, a beer-frosted creation of unabashed rock in a sea of indie crooners and electro-poppers. Craig Finn's inner teenager is bored, socially irresponsible, addicted and angst — a combination that somehow hits home to even the nicest of daddy's girls. The men of The Hold Steady have clearly succeeded in their much-professed goal to sound like a bunch of guys playing music together, and despite how that sounds, it works for them. I still like *Separation Sunday* better, but hey, what's a girl to do?

2. TV on the Radio – Return to Cookie Mountain:

These guys basically never fail. A rock spectacular classic that somehow doubles as a background album, it's a little bit of everything you love all in one swirling breath.

3. Man Man – Six Demon Bag: A crazy, growling ride through the personal playground of a bunch of circus freaks. I love this album because even though it brings to mind a host of reputable psychotics (Zappa, Waits, Captain Beefheart), it really sounds like nothing else you've ever heard. The raw passion of Honus Honus's guttural lyrics and the flat out *fun* of this album mix to create a cognitively interesting and completely satisfying listen. Plus, how can you not like music made with toys?

4. The Blow – Paper Television: This album is undeniably sexy: breathy but forceful female vocals, the requisite squeaks and bips and party proper beats. This is one of the few electro-pop albums where almost every song is memorable (and I can tell them apart).

5. Liars – Drum's Not Dead: A turbulent mess of tightly woven rock creeps into your head through what kind of feels like your bellybutton. This cult avant-garde rock band has finally achieved almost uncontested praise for its newest release that is a tense, creepy masterpiece.

6. Danielson – Ships: This family outfit brought in an almost unprecedented number of indie rock A-listers to bolster its weird, playful sound, but they hardly needed them. Danielson is Christian rock so good I forget it's Christian rock, and *Ships* is their most altogether enjoyable album to date.

7. Beirut – Gulag Orkestar: Gypsy choirs at their very finest and accordions to great effect. There is something so unknowingly charming about this album; it's as if Johnny Depp had stepped right out of *Chocolat* to hand you a tambourine before turning to sail off into the distance.

8. Lily Allen – Alright, Still: This is the ultimate kiss off album, a hilarious and fiery debut from UK pop princess Lily Allen. It might not make the top ten list for many boys, but on a Saturday night, Lily mixes the perfect brew of spunky self-assertion and (surprisingly non-hokey) female empowerment.

9. Midlake – The Trials of Van Occupanther: This makes the list based almost exclusively on the opening track, "Roscoe" — a winding, lush fairy tale that I simply can't stop listening to. The rest of the album isn't bad either.

10. Jehro – Jehro: Not the most innovative thing out there, but this album is so pleasant that you can't help playing it over and over. The most intoxicating, sleepy summer songs surprise with lyrics about dying preteen soldiers and broken dreams — leaving you feeling almost guilty about the Caribbean decadence of the melodies.

Beautifying Battell



Lizzy Zevallos

First-years Jamie Mittelman, Taylor Robinson, Bart Witmer, Rebecca Chin, Dan Berry, Hannah Lincoln and Greg Solver of Assistant Professor of Education Jonathon Miller-Lane's First Year Seminar titled "Balancing the Student Body Through the Liberal and Martial Arts" added a little bit of culture to the walls of the Battell South staircase. Solver outlined the meaning behind the mural saying, "The group wanted the mural to offer a concise immediate message, yet leave the mural open to interpretation. The quote at the bottom is a saying from Morihei Ueshiba, the founder of Aikido, a non-violent Japanese martial art which was one of our subjects of study in class. It is very clear in its meaning: to hurt others is to hurt oneself. Yet, the picture above it depicts one person throwing another, so the viewer of the mural has to try to connect these two ideas and decide for themselves what the mural is getting at."



Regally Blonde

by Astri von Arbin Ahlander

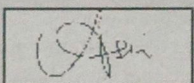
Episode VI: The Reel World

On December 31, 2006 we rang in the New Year. Personally, I choked on my champagne as I stood on the roof of a building in central Stockholm as artillery-like fireworks went off all around me. 2007? This is the number I have written after my name for the past three and a half years to indicate the time of my graduation. Up until this New Year's night, it always felt so remote, so impossibly far in the future. But now, a good week and a half into the year, everything has changed. Weekends are no longer filled with guilt-free dancing at Angela's. Now trips to NYC for job interviews become a priority, if you're lucky enough to get some, that is. Because, believe it or not, when we drive off on May 27th, we are no longer students on summer vacation, but unemployed twenty-somethings with bills to pay. No more free dining hall food. No more unlimited computer access. Now we're going to have to clean our own bathrooms, commute further than a couple of yards a day and be faced with a world in which there are no funds allocated to support our every creative whim. It really is horrifying, this "real world" business.

Because I shy away from conflict and choose to turn a blind eye to reality, I thought it best to do the only reasonable thing: look backwards. I shuffled through photos dating from the time when we still got pictures developed and didn't just let our Kodak moments exist on Facebook. I was shocked to see that back in the Stewart Hall era, we were drinking Smirnoff Ice (ew!) and I was grunging around campus in sweatpants (for this I offer a late apology). I'm thankful to have been a freshman back in the days of raving social house parties, and lament the non-existent nightlife for the current underclassmen. Walking around campus now in just a t-shirt, I also think back with a heavy heart on the days of snowmen, sledding and skiing that characterized the J-Terms of my past.

But reminiscing about my tender freshman days was not enough to drown out my unease about the future. I realized I must take to more active measures to loosen the knot of anxiety growing in my belly. As a studious senior, I looked to my majors for inspiration. Since I am doing the Senior Comprehensive Exam for English, reading any more books was just not an option. And so it was, I found the answer in my second major: Film. Film has been, after all, always, an escapist art form (whether rightfully or not). Theorists have likened the darkness of the movie theatre to the security of the womb for a reason. When we fear facing our real life, we turn to the world presented up on the silver screen to provide us with a couple of hours solace and entertainment. Luckily, there are many opportunities to escape into a reel world this J-Term. Besides MCAB's Free Friday Films, the Hirschfeld Film Series provide a less mainstream selection for more refined taste buds. The month of January is also featuring an Ingmar Bergman Film Series so as not to leave us without cinematic diversion on the weekdays.

As the sun continues to shine, the trees keep getting tricked into budding, and you stumble to and from class making panic lists over what weaknesses can really be presented as strengths to potential future employers, turn your steps to Dana Auditorium. Take out those thick-rimmed glasses, slouch low in your seat and allow yourself to get lost in the comforting warmth of the darkened theatre. Whoever said escapism is wrong? You can worry about the real world after the show.



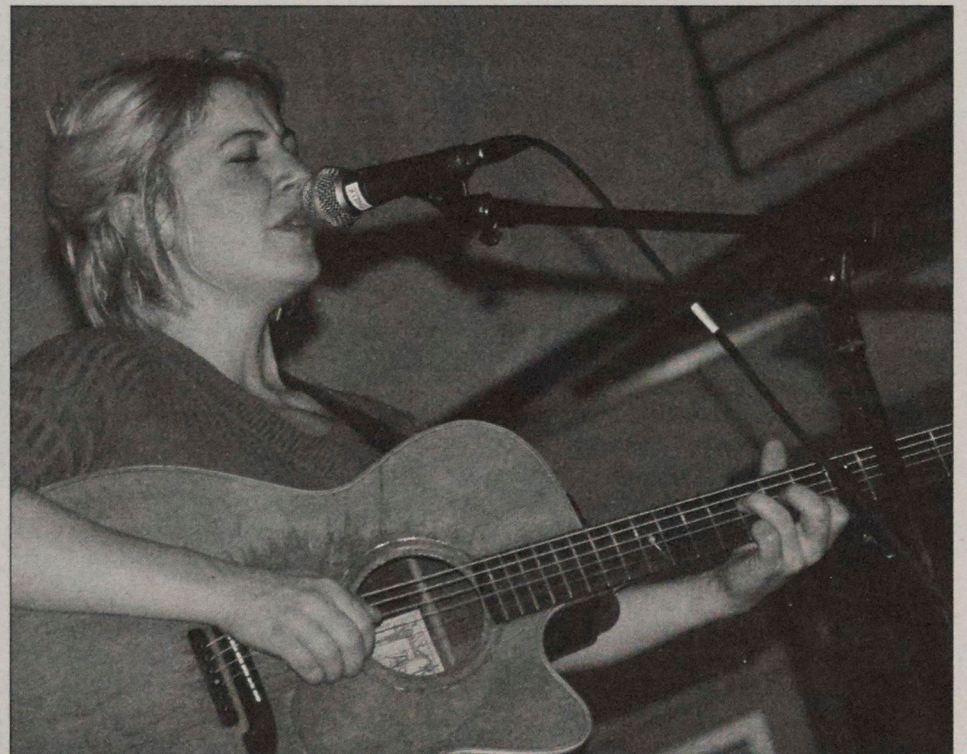
Freewheelin' songwriter returns to roots

By Grace Duggan
STAFF WRITER

Born and raised in Vermont, Anaïs Mitchell '04 began writing songs when she was seventeen years old before going on to study political science here at Middlebury College. "It wasn't really my 'spirit department,'" Mitchell said. "It would have been more of a natural choice to study literature or something...but I was attracted to the serious, aggressive nature of the political science types, and I got my fingers into some stuff I'd never have touched otherwise." Mitchell also became deeply involved in the music scene on campus. She felt increasingly drawn to music as a career path, a calling that she kept to herself for some time. "I knew for years that I wanted to be a singer-songwriter but I was often shy to tell people because it seemed naïve, it seemed like an impossible career path. I used to say I wanted to be a journalist, which wasn't entirely made up as I always romanticized that world as well as the music world."

Mitchell has been compared to the likes of Bob Dylan and Joni Mitchell, but her style remains uniquely her own. Her lyrics are sharp, intelligent and brimming with political undertones. Many of her songs focus on love, politics or both. She includes references to anything from T.S. Eliot's "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock" to her time spent abroad in the Middle East. She also writes some songs or parts of songs in Arabic. The beautiful simplicity of her music, coupled with her almost child-like voice, allows the power of her emotional and moving lyrics to shine through on each of her albums.

Mitchell released her debut album, *The Song They Sang When Rome Fell*, in 2002. She was living in Austin, Texas at the time, and recorded the now out-of-print album in a single day. Her second album, *Hymns for the Exiled*, came out in 2004. Singer-songwriter Ani DiFranco discovered the album and eventually signed Mitchell to her label, Righteous Babe Records. Mitchell was honored to sign with Righteous Babe especially given the strong influence she says DiFranco had on her own music. Mitchell explained, "I probably wouldn't be a songwriter today if it weren't for Ani DiFranco. I mean that...and I'm a great admirer of the label itself, its



Angela Evancie

Middlebury alumnus Anaïs Mitchell performed for an enthralled Grille audience Monday

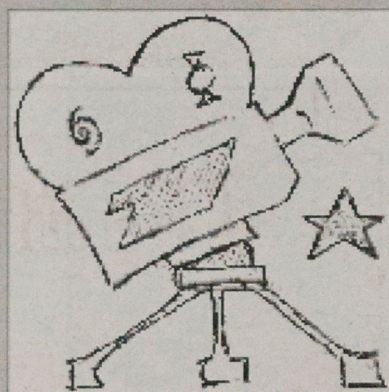
philosophy, its integrity, it is bizarre and cool artist roster." Andrew Bird, who performed at WRMC's Sepomana last semester, is also on DiFranco's label. Mitchell's third album, *The Brightness*, is scheduled for release by Righteous Babe Records on February 13th, 2007.

Mitchell's talents extend beyond writing and performing, as last year she branched out into the realm of musical theater with *Hadestown*, a folk opera that she collaborated on with Ben T. Matchstick, director of Vermont's own Bread & Puppet Theater and composer Michael Chorney. "*Hadestown* is a retelling of the Orpheus myth, set in a sort of an archetypal American company town," Mitchell explained. The opera follows Orpheus' journey into the underworld following the death of his wife Eurydice, played by Mitchell herself. Ben Campbell '03 played Orpheus, and Lisa Raatikainen '03 was a chorus member who also helped with the choral arrangements. *Hadestown* ran for two weekends in Barre and Vergennes last December. Mitchell felt pleased with the results, adding that "It was so fun to put together, and I must say it went better than I could have imagined, though I'm already

thinking of a million ways to tweak it for the next run."

Mitchell recorded her third album with Michael Corney in his studio in Bristol, Vermont. She refers to *The Brightness* as "the most deliberate album I've made, at least, it took the longest to make." When she started recording the album she was living above the studio and would often go downstairs in her pajamas to record. Talking about her work, Mitchell said, "I don't quite know how to describe the album itself. I'd say that for all my initial intentions for big-sounding production, it ended up pretty sparse, which seemed to serve the spirit of the songs. Ultimately it's a heart-on-the-sleeve recording. There are a lot of love songs and unrequited love songs and love stories."

Mitchell gave a talk Monday afternoon to the popular J-Term class, "Bob Dylan's America" and gave a performance at The Grille which was described as "a breath of fresh air into a steadily decaying genre. From today's heap of mediocre folk rockers, she stands out with a very distinctive sound and surprisingly insightful songwriting," by sophomore Scott Robinson.



THE REEL CRITIC

by Josh Wessler

MOVIE | Dreamgirls
DIRECTOR | Bill Condon
STARRING | Jennifer Hudson,
Beyoncé Knowles, Eddie Murphy

The hit Broadway musical "Dreamgirls" makes a flashy transition onto the silver screen in Bill Condon's adaptation. It tells the tale of the beginnings of Motown Records from gospel funk to its national success with smooth R&B. In this loosely fictionalized account, the singing trio named The Dreamettes morph from backup singers for James Early (James Brown?) to headliners named The Dreams (The Supremes?) led by Deena Jones (Diana Ross?). Beyoncé is good as Jones, who is catapulted to lead singer of The Dreams, but luckily "Dreamgirls" does not become a diva-fest. The show stoppers are Eddie Murphy as Jimmy Early and newcomer Jennifer Hudson as Effie White. Effie is a stand-in for Florence Bal-

lard, the original lead singer for the Supremes. While it appeared that Hudson had used up her fifteen minutes when she was voted off the island in the show *American Idol*, her performance in this film proves the old "pop" axiom that being talented and being famous really are two different things. Hudson is magnificent here and it's a good thing she's back in the limelight. In another surprise, Eddie Murphy, who has always been one to light up a screen, does it again while singing (according to my best sources, that's actually his voice).

As Jimmy, Murphy has the persona (and the hair) of a James Brown impersonation (a role many will recognize from the old SNL days), and he helps resuscitate a lagging second-half of the film.

Director Bill Condon put together a loaded supporting cast including a brief appearance from John Lithgow and a mysteriously omnipresent Danny Glover (as Marty Madison, Jimmy's manager), who delivered some of the movie's best lines: "That place is so white you couldn't even get our boys to park the cars."

Because of the film's effort to explore a broader view of Motown's early years, the title "Dreamgirls" borders on being a misnomer (plus, it sounds like a new Fox reality show). In one of the many tasteful departures from the Dreams' saga, we follow Motown's emergence as a label for black singers in response to white singers copying, diluting and cashing in on songs written by black artists. In order to do this, real-life Motown magnate Berry Gordy, portrayed as Curtis Taylor Jr. (Jamie Foxx), had to market

his singers for white audiences. Though Foxx is predictably great in this role, thankfully the movie avoids becoming another artist-tragedy such as "Ray" or "Walk the Line" (good movies, but enough already). To achieve the success that his label does, Curtis treats his singers, with some of whom he is intimate, as commercial products. While Curtis tries to get Jimmy to write a pop hook that kids could cruise to in their cars, Marty retorts, "Jimmy's fans like taking the bus." Curtis's commandeering style of management threatens the singers' identities as artists. With very little creative control, to what extent can a singer who is limited to performing someone else's songs consider him or herself an artist? Considering the current tragic state of teen pop music (Ashlee Simpson's lip-synching fiasco), this question is especially relevant today.

Though the union between film and musical has a rough history, it is surprisingly successful here. Most of the musical numbers are limited to stage performances and those that are not manage to flow well with the film's narrative. The expansive staging of the song-and-dance numbers is

reminiscent of a bloated award ceremony, but as The Dreams' imagined glories get tripped up by personal drama and legalities, the looming monolith of the stage becomes their only friend. The movie is the opposite of "Moulin Rouge," with its overproduction and seizure-inducing editing. "Dreamgirls" stages a humble theatre production in the old-school Hollywood style, albeit with a palm outstretched for Oscar.

Dreamgirls stages a humble theatre production in the old school Hollywood style.



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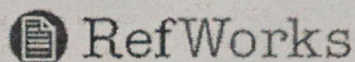
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Relay teams have their way, make Bates pay

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

stroke, Woods would again deny Colby's All-American. Trailing just before the final length, Woods would make a terrific final turn to come back and steal the event from Dewey with a time of 52:84.

Also encouraging were the contributions given by the first-years on the team. Schuyler Beeman '10 won the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 22:20. In the diving pool, first-year Brooks Farrar won the one-meter diving competition with a cumulative score of 256.99.

The women shared similar success as Colby managed only two victories — both by their All-American Kelly Norsworthy — in all the events. Captain Rebecca Reingold '07 led the charge with victories in the 50-yard backstroke and the 50-yard butterfly. The team swam swiftly all day and the match was well out of reach before the meet's concluding relay races were held.

Bates provided no more of a challenge than did Colby. Even with many swimmers competing in "off events," or in events that they would not usually participate in, the men easily beat a Bates team that fielded only eight men.

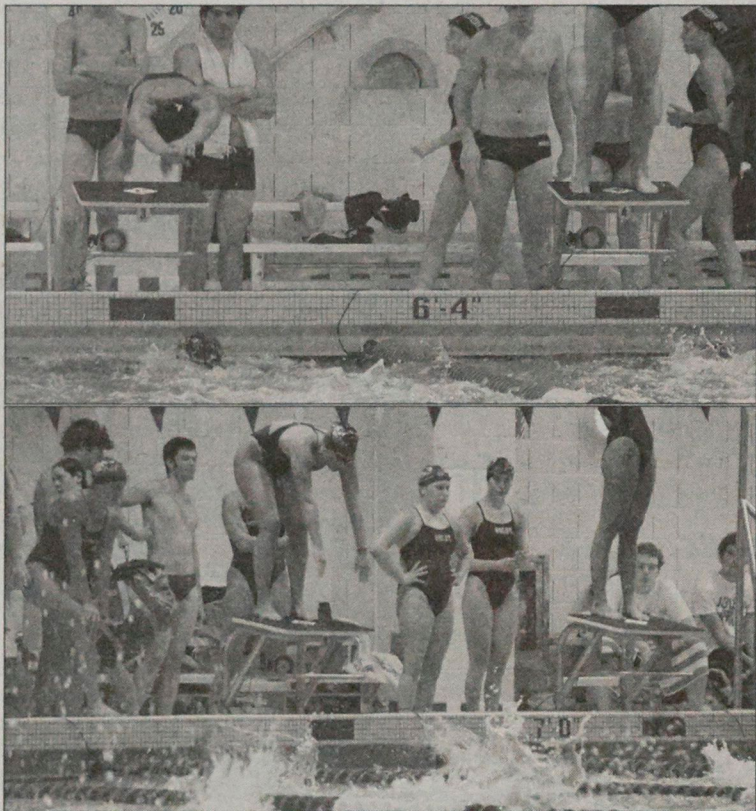
Captains Rob Collier '07 and Tim Lux '07 started quickly with a

nice 1-2 finish in the 200 yard freestyle. Freshman Schuyler Beeman '10 followed an impressive Saturday showing with wins in the 100-yard freestyle and 100 yard backstroke. After the meet, Beeman said, "I'm very happy with my swims, and the teams' swims. Now I'm just hoping to continue to work hard, improve and win our next few meets, especially our meet against Williams."

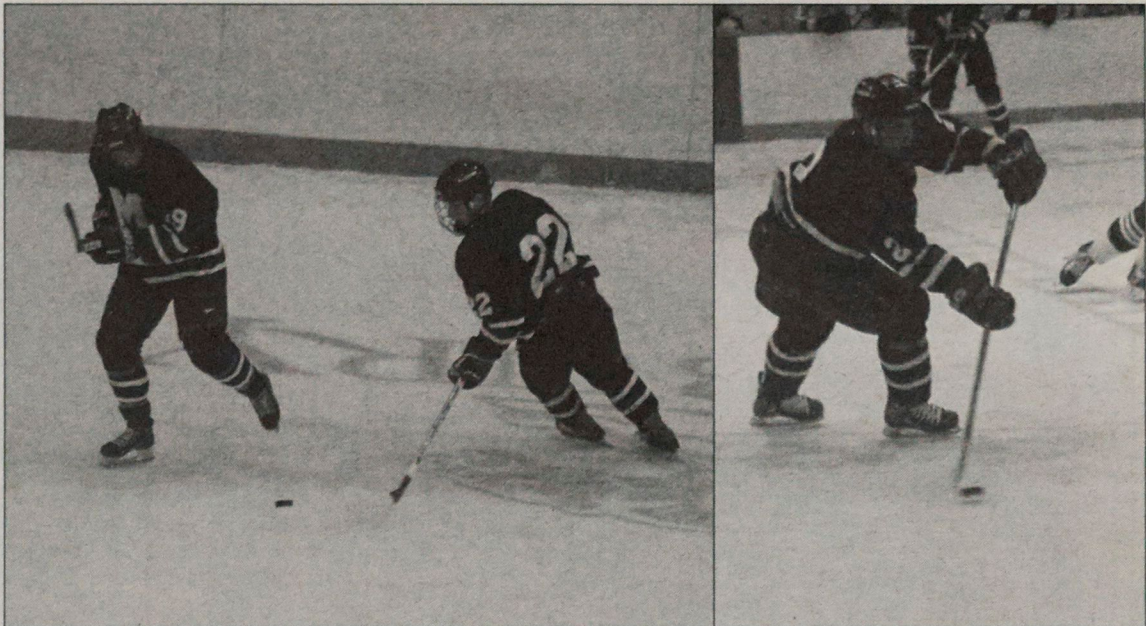
The women also put their meet away early, owing in large part to the first-years. Yu Wang '10 racked up wins in the 200-yard freestyle and 200-yard backstroke, while Soja won the 400-yard IM as well as the 1650-yard freestyle. Her time in the freestyle of 17:43 qualified her for the B-class of this year's NCAA finals, which are being held this year in Houston, Texas.

"Overall it was an awesome weekend," said Katie Remington '10. "We all proved something to ourselves and, more importantly, to all the parents who attended the meet. It was great seeing all the training we put in down in Florida paying off, as lots of us swam personal bests."

With matches at Union and Hamilton in the upcoming weeks, both teams are sure to be hard at work. The very important meet versus Williams is on Jan. 27.



Chris Heinrich



Chris Heinrich/Chris Bohorquez

Hockey came back like a boomerang

By Jeff Patterson
SPORTS EDITOR

Connecticut College was a cakewalk in Nov. 2005. The Panther hockey team smoked the Camels 7-1 without even scoring in the third period. That same season, Skidmore and Castleton State were second and third helpings of cake, which the Blue Shirts consumed by scores of 8-2 and 6-1.

This season, however, Middlebury barely escaped Kenyon Arena with a 2-1 win over Conn. in November. Then this past weekend, after tying the score at one, the Panthers hit the skids against Skidmore, falling 4-2. The next day they eked out a 4-3 win over Castleton State, needing the third period to win.

Late in the second period against Castleton, Eric LaFreniere '07 took a lead pass from Yev Saidachev '07 and streaked towards the net. There, with just over a minute left in the second period, he began to wrap around goalie Jeff Swanson's net before dropping the puck to the trailing Justin Gaines '08. Gaines found an open goal to tie the score at 3-3.

"That's the Middlebury system right there," said Ian Drummond '09, who made his second career start. "Really stretch the ice. Hit the long guy. Get their defensemen thinking about the guy behind them and once you get them thinking, they only look at the puck, and then you hit the open man."

This goal set the stage for Mickey Gilchrist '08. With 7:23 remaining in the game, the captain gathered the puck, made a move and backhanded the puck into the far corner of the goal. Panther goalie Ross Cherry '08

picked up his game in the final frame and picked up his 26th career win.

In both games the opposition scored three unanswered goals. Needless to say, that does not happen very often against Middlebury. "It shouldn't happen," said defenseman Rob MacIntyre '08. "That's not the way we play."

Times have changed, though, and the unseasonably warm January weather only confirms this fact. "Every team in our league this year has gotten a lot better," said Jamie McKenna '09, who had an assist against Skidmore and a goal against Castleton. "There are no walkovers. Last year there were. The level of play has increased and we have to adjust to that and play better than we have."

The main way the other teams have improved is by bringing in talented first-years. Skidmore had ten, while Castleton State had nine. In essence each team is entirely different than the one Middlebury played last season. None of the first-years stood out like Skidmore goalie, D.J. Delbuono, who stood on his head, stopping 46 of the 48 shots that came his way Friday night. "He played pretty well," said MacIntyre. "He had a lot of good saves for them. He came up big."

Still, Delbuono was not the only opposing first-year to have a big impact this weekend. The last three goals Skidmore scored, including the game-winner, came off the sticks of Matt Czerkowiec (two goals) and Anthony Ferri, two first-years. Czerkowiec, with seven biscuits in the basket and 11 assists so far, is the Thoroughbreds' leading scorer and Ferri, who also has seven goals, is

third on the team. All three Castleton goals on Saturday came from new players Steve Culbertson, Eric Curtis and Kirk Bolduc. Culbertson and Bolduc lead the team in scoring.

"Both teams brought a lot of good guys this year. They've definitely improved," said MacIntyre. Drummond agrees, "We're realizing that every team is going to be a good team. That's what this league is. We can't take them lightly."

A lack of scoring opportunities has not been a problem for the Panthers. They out-shot Skidmore 48-29 and Castleton 47-19. But as Casey Ftorek '08 explains it, "We weren't shooting to score. We were just shooting for the sake of taking a shot. It's just a matter of taking some pride in what we do."

"The numbers are clear enough," said Drummond. "We are getting a lot of shots. Quantity is not necessarily what you want. We want quality. Sometimes we hit the goalie right square in the chest. That makes it easy for him. If we get a shot, yeah, it looks good in the stats, but we need to start aiming our shots."

If the Panthers are going to have a shot at their aim, a fourth consecutive national championship, they will need to — as they are starting to figure out — bend over backward. "We've been working hard," said Ftorek, "but we need to get our heads in the game a little bit more and be accountable for our own play."

If they get it all together and bend over backward, the big Ms on their jerseys will automatically transform into Ws, and they will wallop wannabe winners with whatever weapons work.

MIDDLEBURY POWER RANKINGS			
Rank	12/7	Team	Simon Says...
1	1	W. Hockey (8-1)	This choice was easy as an empty-netter, something they had two of in wins vs. Colby and Bowdoin.
2	3	Swimming & Diving	Even with swimmers experimenting with new events, they still lap the Mules and Bobcats.
3	5	M. Basketball (8-3)	Many weapons on an offense which has had four different high scorers in the last three games.
4	2	W. Basketball (8-4)	Lani Young does her best Candace Parker impression with a double-double/game. When's the dunk?
5	4	M. Hockey (7-3-1)	In 2007, the men have outshot opponents 127-65, but been outscored 10-9. Try a knuckle-puck?
6	6	W. Squash (2-3)	With invitations to Yale, Hamilton and Amherst, the team is pretty popular in the squash world.
7	8	Indoor Track	They shed the extra helpings of holiday food with a strong showing at the 38th Dartmouth Relays.
8	7	Skiing	Skiers wax their water skis as rain pours on the Middlebury Snow Bowl.



File Photo/Nirvana Bhatia



File Photo/Ellen Harasimowicz
Pascal Losambe '07, a rugby star, uses his strength indoors in the shot put.

Losambe throws himself into D-III championship

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

rill '09, took fifth place overall in 4:17.29. Merrill also ran individually in the 800 meters, placing 22nd in prelims with a time of 2:32.56. Kelley Coughlan '09 rounded out the women's side with her 22nd place finish in the 60-meter hurdles, a time of 10.59.

A slightly older men's team saw most of their stronger performances from their veterans, led by Pat Sedney's '08 showing in the pole vault. Sedney's seventh place finish paced the team, and his 13' 3/4" loft was a personal record.

Sedney's counterpart in the field events, captain Pascal Losambe '07, took fifth among collegiate athletes and ninth overall in the shotput. His throw went for 13.98 meters and was good enough to qualify him for the New England Division III Championships. Losambe also placed 18th overall in the 35 lb. weight throw with a distance of 12.22 meters.

Also, Middlebury entered a pair of first-years in the 60-meter dash.

Derek Sakamoto and Isaiah Walker posted times of 7.64 and 7.78, respectively. Neither was able to make it out of the preliminary round, but Beatty pointed out that the field at Dartmouth was stacked, especially in such a popular event.

"There are some kids who are recent college graduates, some Division I schools and some independent teams, so the competition gets pretty stiff," he said.

The other men's entrants were Alex Wellman '07 (12th, 60-meter hurdles, 9.08), Conor O'Neill '07 (23rd, 800 meters, 2:04.54), Ben Fowler '09 (22nd, 800 meters, 2:04.49), and Ian O'Reilly '08 (15th, 1 mile, 4:32.8).

Overall, Beatty saw the meet as a positive step in what he anticipates to be a strong season. "This is the first meet of the year, and people are still getting into shape," he said. "This is just a time for us to start building and to see what our baseline is. Now that we've set that baseline and gotten our feet wet, we're just going to try to improve week by week."

Midd shots miss the nest vs. Red Hawks Women's b-ball beats Colby-Sawyer, but loses to RPI

By Andrew Donnantuono
STAFF WRITER

After three consecutive wins at the end of 2006, the women's basketball team began 2007 by dropping two of three games and doubling its total losses for the season. The squad returned from the winter break by losing to regional foe Eastern Connecticut at home 62-56, defeating Colby-Sawyer 58-48 and dropping a thrilling Sunday matinee to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Pepin Gymnasium 60-53. The Panthers now boast an 8-4 record.

Sunday's clash with RPI had just about every possible element: comebacks, crucial free throws and a noisy crowd. Although the game developed into a classic, the play was by no means brilliant for the entire game. With a chance to move to .750 on the season, Middlebury could not make anything happen early on against the Red Hawks. RPI's defense stifled the Panthers. In fact, they could only muster three points after ten minutes of play.

RPI's physical nature made it hard for the Panthers to find open looks, and their discomfort showed as awkward lay-ups clanked off the rim and airballs were rebounded by the opposition.

However, as has been the case for much of the season, not once did it seem as though Middlebury was out of the game. Their first half defense was stellar, holding RPI to nine of 29 shooting.

Coach Noreen Pecsok found the remedy, taking a timeout with the Panthers down 23-9. The team responded and closed the half on a 9-0 run. That streak was mainly due to a dominating defense — Middlebury caused five RPI turnovers in a seven-possession span.

The Panthers, however, failed

to take advantage of their momentum coming out of the locker room. RPI scored the first five points of the half and regained a double-digit lead at 28-18. Still, Middlebury would not quit on this day. Captain Carlie Harrington '07 capped an inspiring comeback with a three-point play midway through the second half, bringing the score to 38-38.

When it seemed like Middle-

bury was on the verge of seizing the lead, RPI struck back with an 8-0 run of its own, quickly taking the crowd, which had become increasingly boisterous, out of the game. But Middlebury went on one last spurt, tying the game again, this time at 51-51 with 1:22 remaining.

Yet the Panthers just could not get over the final hump, as a clever inbound pass under the basket by the Red Hawks (or a lapse in concentration by the Panthers) resulted in two points and, following free throws, a 60-53 loss.

Prior to Sunday's game, as students flocked to campus on Wednesday night for the start of J-Term, the Panthers tipped off their first game of 2007 at home against Eastern Connecticut. As they would do later in the week against RPI, Middlebury came back from a deep hole, 21-11, but could not do enough to win.

Lani Young '09, who scored 10 points and grabbed five rebounds, highlighted how well Eastern Connecticut shot "in the second half, and hit shots that took momentum away from us on several occasions."

Young stressed the effect of the hiatus. "It was also our first game after a long break," she said, "and I think that factored into the game, particularly during the second half." Middlebury quickly had the opportunity to make things right after their 62-56 loss when they traveled to Colby-Sawyer the following day. Compared to their game the night before, Young believes that against the Chargers, the Panthers "were much more patient and willing to move the ball around and make the extra pass that gave everyone, especially our guards, better looks at the basket."

In both games, Aylie Baker '09 helped out in a fairly rare statistic: blocks. Baker hosted a block party against Colby-Sawyer, stuffing seven shots after recording two against Eastern Connecticut. She leads NESCAC players heading into conference play with 25 blocks.

"Aylie's blocks have come at key times, often halting runs by the other team and getting us a much needed defensive stop," said Young.

Although Youn knows that, in the NESCAC, Middlebury will be facing "more difficult teams more often," the Panthers are "planning on taking some big games that we let slip away last season."



Ilhan Kim

Katie Fisher '08 scored eight points in a 60-53 loss to RPI.

editor's picks

Questions of the week:	Geoff Homer	James Kerrigan	Jeff Patterson
Will the Middlebury men's basketball team have more blocks against Colby or Bowdoin?	COLBY I've got some strong family allegiances to Bowdoin. Let's leave it at that.	BOWDOIN The Mules' average height is well over 6'3" while the Polar Bears' average height is 6'2". As they say, it is a game of inches.	BOWDOIN The tallest Polar Bear is 6'6". The Mules could have a starting five of players 6'6" or taller. It's not a surprise that opponents are averaging 3.2 blocks against the Bowdoin, but only 2.4 against Colby.
Assuming that Clemson, the only remaining undefeated D-I men's basketball team, loses sometime this season, will it be to a team from North Carolina?	YES Of their next five games, three are versus North Carolina State, UNC and Duke. Their Cinderella run will end soon.	NO Clemson is just not very good. They have barely snuck by some mediocre teams and will not pass their first test against a top-25 team. Sorry Tigers, your luck will run out.	NO Fear the Turtle, especially on its home turf. The Maryland Terps will shell the Tigers on Jan. 13th in the game just before Clemson tips off against number one ranked UNC.
Will the Winter Carnival nordic ski races have to be moved due to a lack of snow, like they were last year?	NO It is only January. We're gonna get some Nor'Easters soon.	YES Last Saturday's high of 62 degrees shattered the old record of 52 degrees. The apocalypse is coming. Yes, that is right, I mean no skiing at Middlebury this year.	NO According to weather.com's ten week forecast, we'll be having a blizzard right around Feb. 22. I can't white.
Record:	14-16 (.467)	11-19 (.367)	13-17 (.433)

As Told by A.S.

By Andrew Schlegel

Why isn't it possible for a team with a perfect season like Boise State to have a shot at the national title?

Strength of schedule is about the only variable that separates Boise State from the top teams, and it is still not much to build an argument around. The Broncos beat Oregon State (who beat USC) in addition to Hawaii, Utah and San Jose State, three more teams that won bowl games this season.

The Broncos came into the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl with a perfect 12-0 record, accompanying the number one Buckeyes as the only other undefeated team in the nation. They faced off against Oklahoma and won 43-42 in overtime to improve to 13-0.

This may, as Auburn learned in 2004, prove to be an unlucky number.

In one of the most exciting games of the season, Boise State proved to be as good as any team in the country, coming up big in the crucial moments of their most important game. They deserve to play the best team in the country.

Boise State began the Fiesta Bowl with two touchdown drives, coming out to a 14-0 lead. Even after the Sooners crawled back to within four points, the Broncos restored their lead to 18, showing that they deserve more respect for their perfect season.

Down 35-28 with under a minute left in the fourth quarter, Boise State employed a stunning 50-yard "hook-and-lateral" play on fourth-and-18 for a touchdown to force overtime.

In OT, the Sooners started by scoring off a 25-yard touchdown run, but the Broncos responded with another fourth down touchdown pass, this time from their second-string running back.

Instead of going for the extra point, like the Sooners, the Broncos put the game on the line and went for the win with the two-point conversion.

The Broncos' quarterback, Jared Zabransky, looked at three wide receivers to his right, then, with his best Statue of Liberty impression, handed the ball behind his back to his tailback Ian Johnson, who raced untouched into the end zone.

Not only was the game high-scoring, but the Broncos executed plays that are almost never used, to perfection. They showed that they are a quality football team.

After this huge win, the Boise State players believe that they should be playing Ohio State for the national championship. And with Senior Jared Zabransky at quarterback, who, in his last college game, was named the offensive MVP after completing 19 of 29 passes for 262 yards and three touchdowns, it is a tough argument to refute.

Hockey had fun in Finland, a sweet time in Sweden

By James Kerrigan
SPORTS EDITOR

Within hours of checking their luggage and going through customs after a red-eye flight across the Atlantic, members of the women's hockey team were lacing it up with a Swedish squad. Six time zones, 15 degrees of longitude and one long plane ride separated the two teams, but once they all stepped on the ice, the geographic division seemed smaller than Middlebury's goals

against average.

As Coach Mandigo organized and explained drills, it became apparent that soccer is not the only international game. Both Middlebury and Swedish skaters shared many laughs while linking passes and playing in unison in a country in which most of the Middlebury players had never stepped a foot or a pair of Bauer skates.

The language barrier was, of course, a minor issue. Looks of utter confusion characterized many

Swedish faces as coach Mandigo diagramed certain drills, but it was all smiles for the Panthers.

"Listening to [Mandigo] talk was enough to put our whole team in hysterical laughter," said Assistant Captain Shannon Tarrant '07, who leads the team in assists and is tied for the team lead in points. "We were on no sleep and they couldn't speak English very well, but the whole practice was awesome."

Practices were far from the only activity the team engaged in over the holiday break. They played three games and went 1-1-1 in Sweden and Finland, but the success of the international journey was not measured in wins and losses.

Before any passport was stamped, puck dropped or any Swedish dictionary opened, months worth of planning and coordinating on the part of Coach Mandigo, were done to make the trip smooth and easy. His laborious efforts allowed the team to fully enjoy the experience and reap all the benefits of the cultural immersion. Without him, this trip would not have happened.

"We are all grateful for Coach Mandigo who spent countless hours organizing," said Tarrant. "He didn't have to let us go, but he thought that

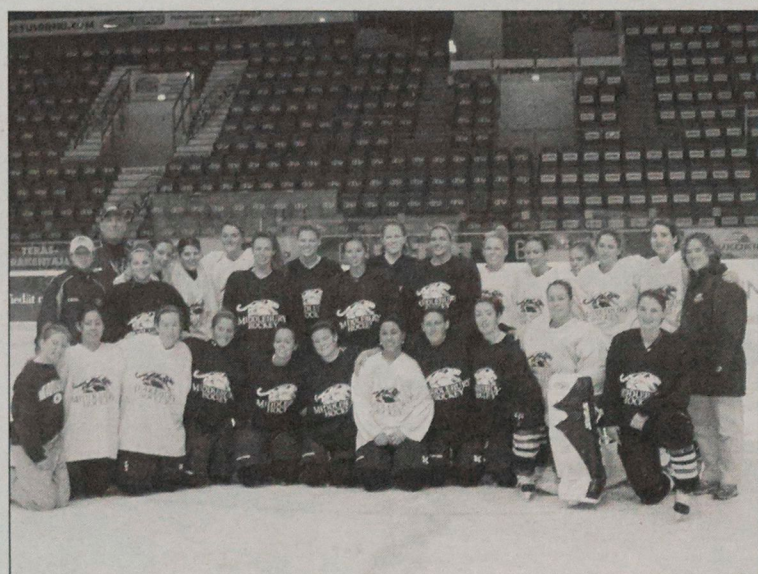
a trip to Europe would complete our Middlebury career."

In fact, it may have done more than complete a Middlebury career, which includes three consecutive national championships. The trip's impact was profound. Tarrant said, "It was really an unforgettable experience and was a highlight of my time at Middlebury."

One of the trip highlights was Pear, the team's tour guide for the week. As the team bus traveled through Sweden and Finland, Pear frequently abused loud speaker privileges and offered countless personal stories and tidbits about Sweden. According to Tarrant, the lovable conductor is still the talk of the locker room.

The trip helped unite the team in an unprecedented way. After spending 24 hours a day with each other for a full week, few secrets remain.

Both on and off the ice, the team learned about and gained confidence in one another. It sure showed as the Panthers traveled a mere 309 miles to Colby and then 52 more miles to Bowdoin on their way to outscoring the Maine rival schools 9-3 and improving their record to 8-1 for the season.



Shannon Tarrant

Women's hockey wins its eighth game in a row

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

every time that we have played them and this game was a reminder that we cannot overlook any team."

With that big match-up upon them, the nation's second-ranked team was sluggish out of the gates as 10th-ranked Bowdoin took a 1-0 advantage on a wrap-around backhand by Meghan Gillis three minutes into the game.

As usual, however, the Panthers rebounded. They got on the board a mere 18 seconds into the second period with Kurtz-Phelan slapping home a pass from Sylvester. Erika Nakamura '09, a consistently strong

contributor this year, put the Panthers ahead 2-1 eight minutes into the period on the power play.

Middlebury expanded upon its lead halfway through the third after Annmarie Cellino '09 intercepted a Polar Bear pass and buried it in the net for a shorthanded goal.

"There are a number of players on this team who are maturing and becoming more comfortable in different roles this year," said assistant captain Shannon Tarrant '07. "Cellino has been incredibly helpful to us both on and off the ice."

Lani Wright '10 had 18 saves in net for the Panthers and Kurtz-Phelan sealed the victory, scoring her sec-

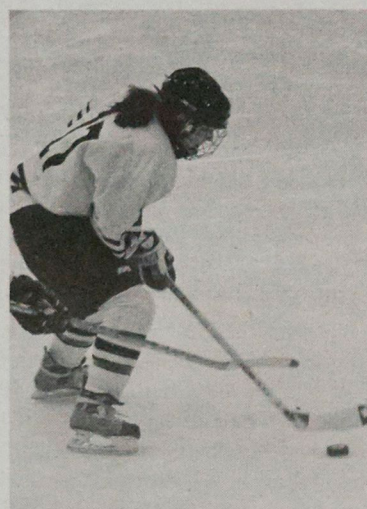
ond empty-netter of the weekend.

Given the timing and circumstances, the victories over Colby and Bowdoin were invaluable.

"After returning from Europe on Tuesday and jumping right back into practice, it was especially important for us to start off the new year on the right foot," said assistant captain Emily McNamara '07.

"We worked hard all week and earned two hard-fought wins this weekend," she said. "Victories like this will only help us to grow and develop further as a team."

The top-ranked NESCAC team takes on last place Wesleyan at home on Friday and Saturday.



File Photo/Nirvana Bhatia

BY THE NUMBERS

By Jeff Patterson, Sports Editor

98	Consecutive games the women's hockey team has gone without being shutout. The last time they failed to score was in the first game of the '03-'04 season, when they lost to Bowdoin 1-0.
30	Shutouts the women's hockey team has recorded over those 98 games.
30-7	Score by which the women's hockey team has outscored Bowdoin, the only other team to win the NESCAC championship, over a current 5-game winning streak against the Polar Bears.
.716	Field goal shooting percentage of men's basketball player Aaron Smith '09, which is the highest in the NESCAC.
16	Number of steals (the team high) and made free-throws for Tim Edwards '09.5, who has started all ten games of his career.
4 x 4	Type of car recommended in Vermont winters — to handle the (usually large amounts of) snow, which we have yet to see with our 20 x 20 vision.

Panthers prowl and roll

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

players led to an array of open jump shots and lay-ups.

As has been the case in almost all of Middlebury's wins this season, the Panthers were able to effectively execute the transition game for a plethora of easy buckets. The up-tempo style of play has become a trademark of this year's team.

"Since the first day of practice, we have been training to be a team that fast-breaks as much as possible," said forward Evan Thompson '07. "We know that if we can push the ball up the court we have the chance to score a high-percentage shot before our opponent's defense is able to set up."

"We have seen what our transition game can do for us, and we're

going to continue to work hard each practice and game to get even better," he said.

The Panthers increased their lead to 40 in the second half before a 22-3 run by the Thoroughbreds over the final 9:19 closed the gap. Yet it was too little, too late for Skidmore, as the Panthers collected their second victory of the season at Pepin Gymnasium.

Middlebury put forth another inspired effort the following day at Colby-Sawyer, winning a 96-85 shootout. Andrew Harris '08 poured in a game-high 28 points for the Panthers, who displayed the same offensive firepower as they did against Skidmore.

After three convincing victories, the Panthers are peaking at the right time as NESCAC play looms nearer. Improved intensity has been instrumental to the team's recent success on the defensive side of the ball and it complements the Panthers' already explosive offense.

"After the first few games of the season, I feel we were comfortable on the offensive end but relied too much on it to win games," asserted Thompson. "Now back from winter break and into the second half of our season, I feel that our defensive intensity has picked up. This, coupled with our everyday growth on offense will allow us to truly compete for a NESCAC championship this year."



Chris Heinrich

INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM

The Campus gets behind the glass with Hannah Baker

By James Kerrigan
SPORTS EDITOR

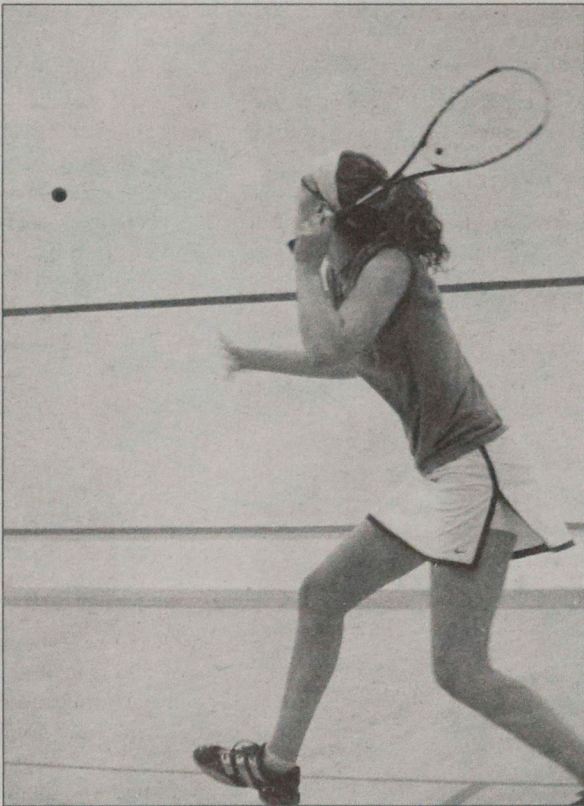
Senior Co-Captain Hannah Baker, of the women's squash team, has an individual record of 4-1 on the season, but more important to the squash star is the team's record of 2-3. According to her housemate Leigh Polfer '07, she has "a deep affinity for bonding" and has always put the team first.

The psychology major from New York City has been a part of three winning seasons in her career and hopes to make it a perfect four and finish her career on a positive note. With 10 matches remaining on the schedule, the door is still wide open.

Baker challenged Coach Seward to a high-stakes match earlier this season and emerged the victor. As a result, Seward is obligated to dress up as Elmo. This is about as likely as Baker following through on her J-Term goal of catching up on current events, which she admits is doubtful.

Liz McMorris '09.5, who is not even half-way through her first season on the team, has dueled the captain many times, but has she gotten to know Baker in a residential setting?

Polfer, one of Baker's Washington St. companions, has shared many late nights and lazy mornings with the senior squash player, but does she know what is it like inside the locker room?



Angela Evancie

Teammate vs. Roommate

	Baker	McMorris	Polfer
What kind of racquet do you play with?	Dunlop	Dunlop (1)	Dunlop (1)
What is your favorite late night dance party song?	"World Hold On" by Bob Sinclair	"Sandstorm" (0)	Anything by Bob Sinclair (.75)
Any noteworthy nicknames?	Yao Ming	Big Bird (0)	Big Bird, giant, Yao Ming (.75)
What is your favorite Ben & Jerry's flavor of ice cream?	Mint Oreo	Mint Chip (.5)	Mint Oreo (1)
Goggles or no goggles?	Goggles	Goggles (1)	Very attractive goggles (1)
Average number of snooze button slaps per day?	2 or 3	4 (.25)	26(0)
What was your scariest childhood memory?	Getting lost at Sea World	Big Bird (0)	Hanging out with Shamu (1)
final score...		2.75	5.5

The housemates/roommates have kicked off 2007 with a crucial victory. Polfer nudged out McMorris with her knowledge of the past and present and distinguished herself as the Baker-trivia expert.

As evidenced by the diversity of answers in response to the question of what Baker enjoys most about squash, she is motivated by a combination of things. McMorris suggested it is because the sport

shares its name with a vegetable whereas Polfer thought the thrill of destroying an opponent in a crucial match or playing really old men on her abroad club team most inspired Baker. Whatever the reason, Baker is doing what she likes and liking what she does.

It appears Baker has emerged from her traumatizing childhood experience at her local Sea World. She survived a frightening after-

noon with Shamu and lived to tell her roommate.

Baker and the squash team travel to New Haven, Conn. this weekend to compete in the Yale Invitational. They will look to get back above .500 and be considered one of the teams in the upper echelon of the NESCAC league.

The NESCAC Tournament, which will take place at Trinity College is only 24 days away.

sportsbriefs

by Geoff Homer

Men's hockey wins Holiday Classic

While most students enjoyed the recent break away from campus, the men's hockey team hosted its annual Holiday Classic, which featured Trinity College, Hobart and St. Anselm.

On New Year's Eve, Middlebury defeated St. Anselm 3-2 in a game in which all three goals came from seniors. John Sales '07 opened the scoring with a shot to the top corner of the net. Less than two minutes later, Brett Shirreffs '07 pounded in a rebound off of an Evgey Saidachev '07 shot on a 5-3 power play. After a scoreless second period, the Panthers struck again with another power play goal, this time with a Darwin Hunt '07 assist to the open Saidachev. The Hawks did not give up, as they managed to score two third period goals, but Doug Raeder '09 and the Panther defense was able to preserve the lead.

The new year brought the first Middlebury championship win of 2007, as the Panthers defeated Hobart in a shootout after battling to a 3-3 tie in regulation. The Statesmen opened the scoring with a tally in the first period. Regrouping at halftime, the Panthers tied the game just 11 seconds in with a goal from Mickey Gilchrist '08. Just under four minutes later, Hunt scored to put Middlebury up 2-1. Hobart rebounded with a power-play goal and later scored again to go up 3-2. With five minutes left in the period, however, Rob MacIntyre '08 scored the tying goal. After a scoreless third period, the game entered overtime, where it was sent to a shootout after another scoreless period. Middlebury won the shootout, and the game by a score of 3-1. Sales, who was named to the All-Tournament team along with Mason Graddock '09, converted his attempt in the shootout as did Eric LaFreniere '07 and Tom Maldonado '08.

Ski teams compete despite no snow

Despite the lack of snow, both the alpine and Nordic ski teams have been in competition over break. The Nordic team traveled to Michigan to compete in the 2007 U.S. Cross Country Championships held at the Michigan Tech Nordic Training Center while the alpine team competed in events sanctioned by the Fédération Internationale de Ski (FIS) throughout North America.

The men's and women's alpine teams enjoyed considerable success competing in FIS and Nor-Am races with multiple top three places and a victory. Before Christmas, the women traveled to Sunday River in Maine where Mattie Ford '09 placed second and fourth in two slaloms while tri-captain Megan Hughes '08 had three top five finishes in four races. Tri-captain Lindsay Brush '07 also placed third in a race at Mt. Tremblant in Canada against a field studded with Canadian and collegiate racers. She finished 11th or better in all four of her races, and was the top American in three. Recently the women traveled to Waterville Valley in N.H. where Tucker Vest-Burton '09 won the race with Ford coming in second.

On the men's side, the Reed brothers, Jack '10 and Clayton '08 have led the Panthers so far, with Clayton getting two top 10s in two slaloms at Sugarloaf. Jack placed 5th at Sugarloaf and placed 15th in the giant slalom at Nor-Am's at Sunday River in a field filled with many U.S. Ski team racers. His season is now in doubt after he broke his leg in a freak accident running down a flight of stairs in Stewart. Other strong performers include Jon Hunter '10 and Joey Swensson '08 who returned from spending the fall in snowy Colorado where he was able to get valuable training.



File Photo/Albert Bitici

Both the men's and women's teams compete at Stowe and Waterville Valley for the final races before the Carnival season kicks off on Jan. 19 at the St. Michaels Carnival, but results were unavailable at the time *The Campus* went to press.

The Nordic team placed sixth out of 27 colleges competing in the Cross Country Championships, a remarkable effort considering all but one team finishing ahead of them had snow to train on. Better yet, the Panthers beat bitter rival UVM, who finished ninth. The men and women competed in both the freestyle and classic races, which were filled mainly with U.S. Ski Team racers and others who race for factory sponsored travel teams.

The top three racers on the men's side were Matt Johnson '08, with a 24th in the 10K Classic and a 36th in the 15K freestyle. Simeon Hamilton '09 placed 30th in the 10k and added a 34th in the 15k. Tim Reynolds '09 added a 33rd in the 10K but had a strong 16th in the 15k. Cassidy Edwards '09 led the women with an 18th in the classic and a 13th in the freestyle. Jenny Hamilton '07 had a 30th in the classic and a 22nd in the freestyle, while Robyn Anderson '09 placed 28th and 25th respectively.

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

Date	Sport	Vs.	Result	Comments
Jan. 4 Jan. 7	W. Basketball	Colby-Sawyer RPI	58-48 W 60-53 L	Emily Johnson '09 had 15 points and Lani Young '08 had 13 in the victory.
Jan. 6 Jan. 7	M. Basketball	Skidmore Colby-Sawyer	81-65 W 96-85 W	Andrew Harris '08 led Midd with 28 points against host Colby-Sawyer.
Jan. 5 Jan. 6	W. Hockey	Colby Bowdoin	5-2 W 4-1 W	The Panthers have won eight straight and are ranked No. 2 in the country.
Jan. 5 Jan. 6	M. Hockey	Skidmore Castleton St.	4-2 L 4-3 W	Casey Ftorek '08 scored his first career Middlebury goal against Skidmore.
Jan. 6	Swim & Dive	Colby	M: 137-99 W W: 147-104 W	The men's team had a first place finisher in 12 out of the 15 events.
Jan. 7	Swim & Dive	Bates	M: 162-73 W W: 160-128 W	Led by Yu Wang '10, Midd had the top-five spots in the 200-yard freestyle.

Midd does a thorough job vs. Thoroughbreds

By Jeff Klein
STAFF WRITER

Explosive offense. Stifling defense. The Middlebury men's basketball team showed a bit of each in three straight wins in 2007 over the University of New England (UNE), Skidmore and Colby-Sawyer, boosting the team's record to an impressive 8-3.

Against UNE on Jan. 3, the Panthers relied on their defensive intensity to break open what had been a close, back-and-forth game in the first half. Coming out of intermission with a six point lead, Middlebury held UNE to eight points over the first six minutes of the second half, which allowed the Panthers to increase its lead to 14 by the 14:21 minute mark. A quick spurt by the Nor'easters did not deter the Panthers, as they immediately responded with a 7-0 run of their own that would ultimately put the game out of reach. Middlebury ended the game having forced 21 UNE turnovers, the major catalyst in the Panther victory.

After the game, several Panthers emphasized that their defensive intensity proved crucial in securing the win.

"The biggest reason for our win was the energy we came out with in the second half on the defensive end," said rookie Tim Edwards '09.5. "Our defensive pressure caused turnovers which led to easy baskets in transition."

Added Aaron Smith '09, who led the Panthers with nine rebounds, "Our defensive intensity was definitely strongest in the UNE game. We took them out of their offense by getting in the passing lanes and making deflections, allowing us to score easy fast-break points."

In Saturday's 81-65 win over Skidmore, it was Middlebury's offense that propelled the team to victory. A strong transition game coupled with blistering-hot shooting, especially from beyond the arc, proved a lethal combination that Skidmore could not overcome.

The first half saw Middlebury jump out to an astounding 30-point lead as the team shot .528 from the field. The Panthers' offense ran with remarkable precision and efficiency. Crisp ball movement, off-the-ball screens and constant motion by the

SEE PANTHERS PROWL, PAGE 22



Chris Dowd, #45, scored nine points on 3-of-5 shooting from behind the arc, in only 17 minutes. The Panthers beat Skidmore in Pepin Gym, 81-65.

Women remain No. 2 after two wins in Maine

By Seth Miran
STAFF WRITER

What do Tiger Woods and the women's hockey team have in common? Both have recently taken advantage of the best that Sweden has to offer. For Tiger, that means a smokin' hot wife. For the women's hockey team, that meant taking on three Swedish club teams.

Returning home to the U.S. from a post-Christmas, seven-day transatlantic trip to Finland and the aforementioned Sweden, the women's hockey team appeared

unaffected by a three-week layover during break. After the dreaded bus ride to Maine, the women notched a 5-2 victory over the Colby Mules followed by a 4-1 win over the Bowdoin Polar Bears the next afternoon.

Perhaps a little bit lethargic from the long bus ride earlier in the day, the Panthers struggled during the first period of Friday night's game versus Colby.

The Mules jumped out to a 1-0 lead just two minutes into the game and expanded their lead with another goal at the 17 minute mark of

the first period. Yet, with just twenty seconds left in the first, the Panthers got on the board with an unassisted goal from Ashley Bairos '10.

Karen Levin '08 tied the game with a goal halfway through the second period. The Panthers finally pulled away halfway through the third period, with Lacey Farrell '08 notching the eventual game winner off an assist from Ellen Sargent '07.

Levin continued her solid play in the third as she notched her second goal of the game with two minutes remaining. Abby Kurtz-Phelan

'07 closed out the scoring with an empty net goal at the 19:10 mark of the third period to cap the hard-fought 5-2 victory over Colby.

Discussing possible reasons for Middlebury's lethargic start against lesser ranked Colby, captain Shannon Sylvester '07 said, "Maybe we were looking ahead to Saturday's big match-up against Bowdoin a bit too much and consequently failed to start the Colby game with enough intensity. Colby has gotten better

SEE WOMEN'S HOCKEY, PAGE 22

Swimmers sweep the series easily

By Simon Keyes
SPORTS EDITOR

Parents, relatives and friends filled the Natatorium to the brim this weekend to watch both the men's and women's swim teams sweep NESCAC opponents Colby and Bates. Those family members who visited on the swim team's parents' weekend were not disappointed by the contests. The women beat Colby 147-104 and Bates 160-128, while the men finished with 137-99 and 162-73 victories.

The swimmers were especially excited to compete after a grueling week-long training trip to Fort Lauderdale, Fla. The swimmers knew beforehand that there would not be much time for the beautiful beaches in the area. Katie Soja '10 noted, "Coach told us that the trip was the hardest he had ever planned. We were in the pool sometimes up to four hours a day and we did a lot of land training."

Some of the swimmers may have been a little worn out from the trip, but you would not have been able to tell after watching them swim circles around the Colby and Bates swim teams.

Against Colby, the men won all but two events, and often finished first and second. Zach Woods '09 set the tone early with an exciting victory in the 50-yard backstroke. The entire pool knew that the race would come down to a battle between Woods and Colby's All-American swimmer, Jabez Dewey. So with all eyes in the Natatorium focused on Woods' and Dewey's lanes, Woods prevailed, edging Dewey by a mere six one-hundredths of a second with a time of 25:06.

Later on in the 100-yard back-

SEE RELAY TEAMS, PAGE 20

POSTCARD FROM SWEDEN



Shannon Tarrant

Over winter break, the women's ice hockey team travelled to Sweden and Finland to play three games. As Shannon Tarrant '07 said, "It was really an unforgettable experience." For James Kerrigan's story see page 22.

Indoor track gets on track at Dartmouth

By Livingston Burgess
STAFF WRITER

Middlebury's men's and women's track teams opened their seasons Sunday by throwing some of their top competitors into a difficult field at the 38th annual Dartmouth Relays in Hanover, N.H. The Panthers walked away with several strong individual performances, a good sense of where the team stands and most importantly, according to Head Coach Martin Beatty, a feeling of a strong potential for growth.

The highlight of a meet that featured an abundance of young talent came, appropriately enough, in sophomore Jen Brenes' performance in the 60-meter hurdles. After posting seventh in the preliminary and semi-final races, Brenes jumped to fifth overall and second among collegiate athletes after running a blistering 9:46 in the final.

Beatty saw Brenes' run as a demonstration of the Panthers' ability to compete on the highest levels. "There are a lot of Division I and II schools who come to Dartmouth, so the competition's pretty intense. It makes Jen's performance that much more special," said Beatty.

Brenes was by no means the only Panther underclassman to post strong results in Hanover. In the 400 meters, Anjuli Demers '10 was eighth overall and third among college athletes with a 1:00.97, and Simone Weisman '09 placed a collegiate-level fifth in 1:01.89.

"They both ran very well," said Beatty. "Our 400 women's runners were very strong, both individually and in the relays."

The relay team, including Demers and Weisman along with Kara Plunkett '07 and Susanna Mer-

SEE LOSAMBE THROWS, PAGE 21

this week in sports

LOCKER ROOM: Hannah Baker

Who knows the senior squash captain better? page 23



games to watch

Men's Basketball vs. Colby, Jan. 12 at 7:00
Men's Hockey vs. Williams, Jan. 16 at 7:00



Women's Basketball:

The Panthers' multiple comebacks were not enough against RPI, page 21